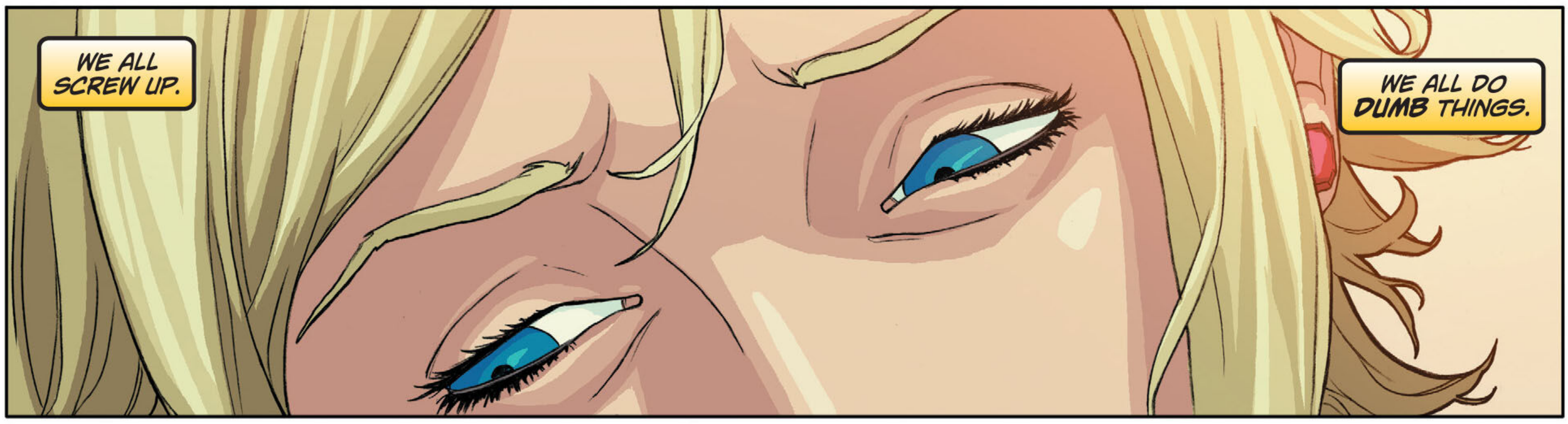
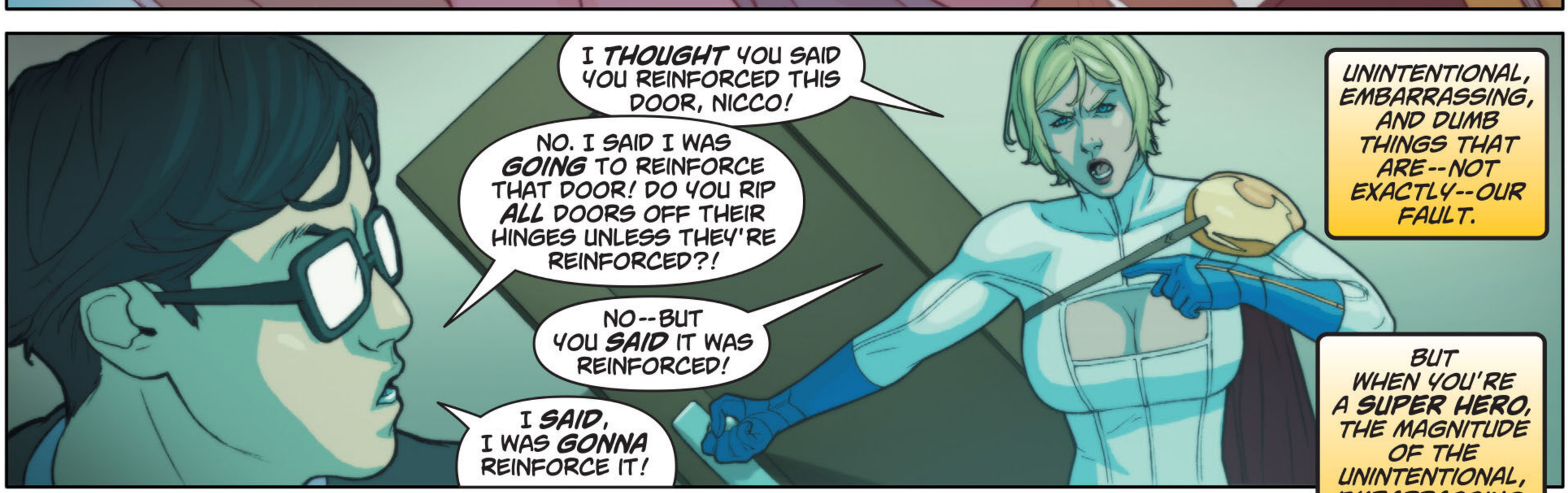
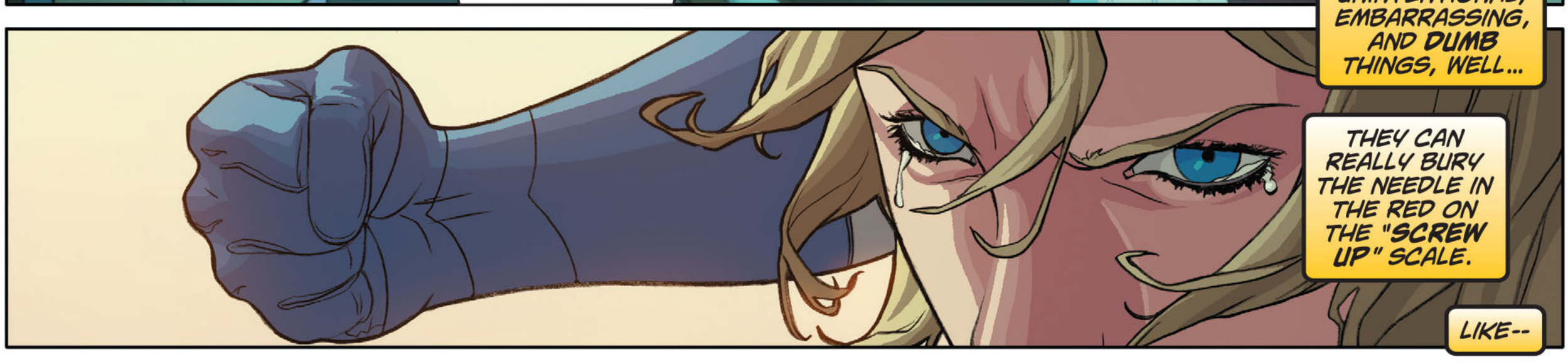
DC
21
APR '11
POWER GIRL
Judd WINICK
Sami BASRI
DCCOMICS.COM


WE ALL SCREW UP.
WE ALL DO DUMB THINGS.

UNINTENTIONALLY DUMB THINGS.
"CONGRATULATIONS"?
WHAT-- YOU THINK I'M PREGNANT?!
EXCUSE ME THAT WE ALL CAN'T BE A SIZE 6!

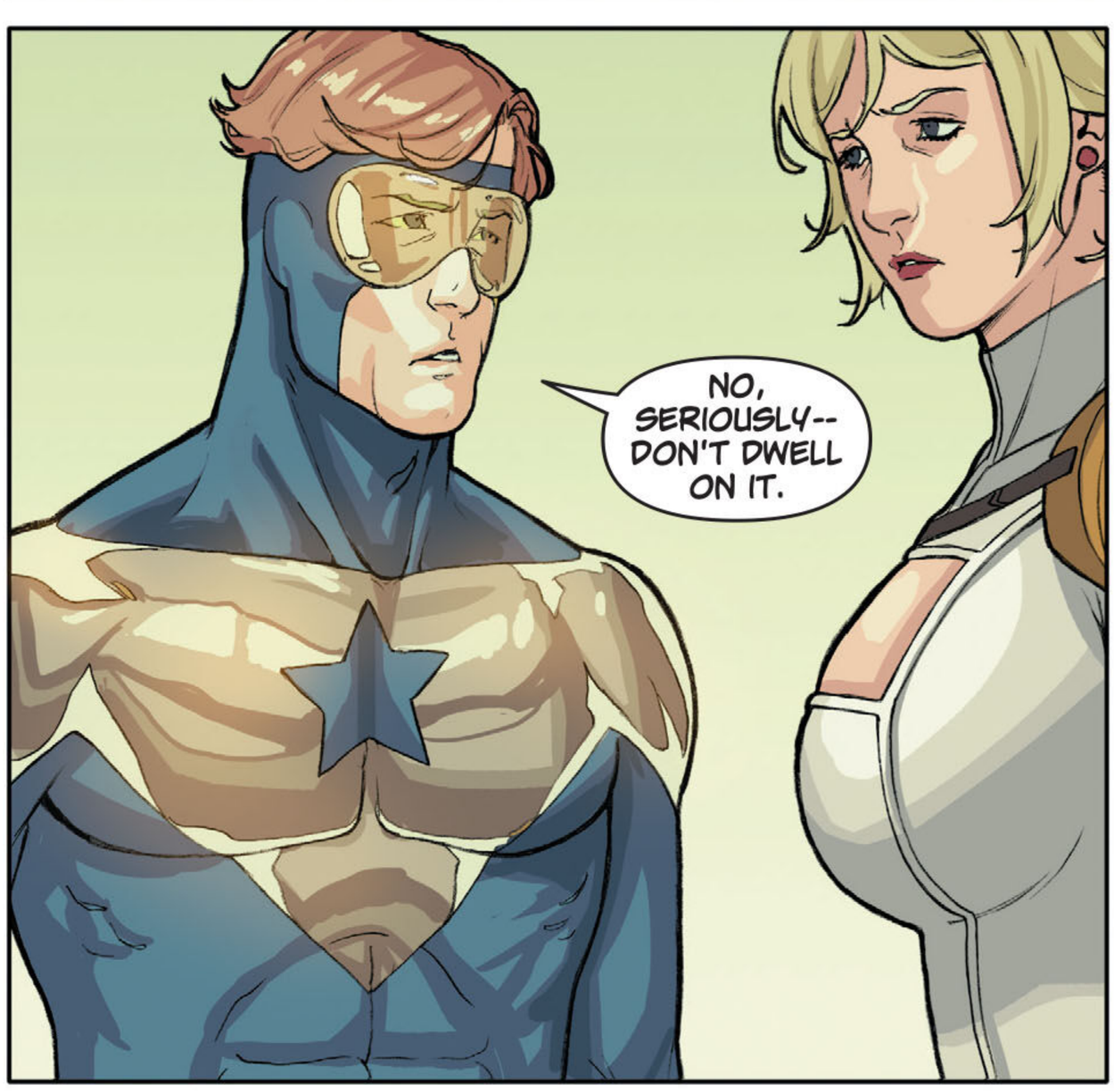
EMBARRASSING DUMB THINGS.

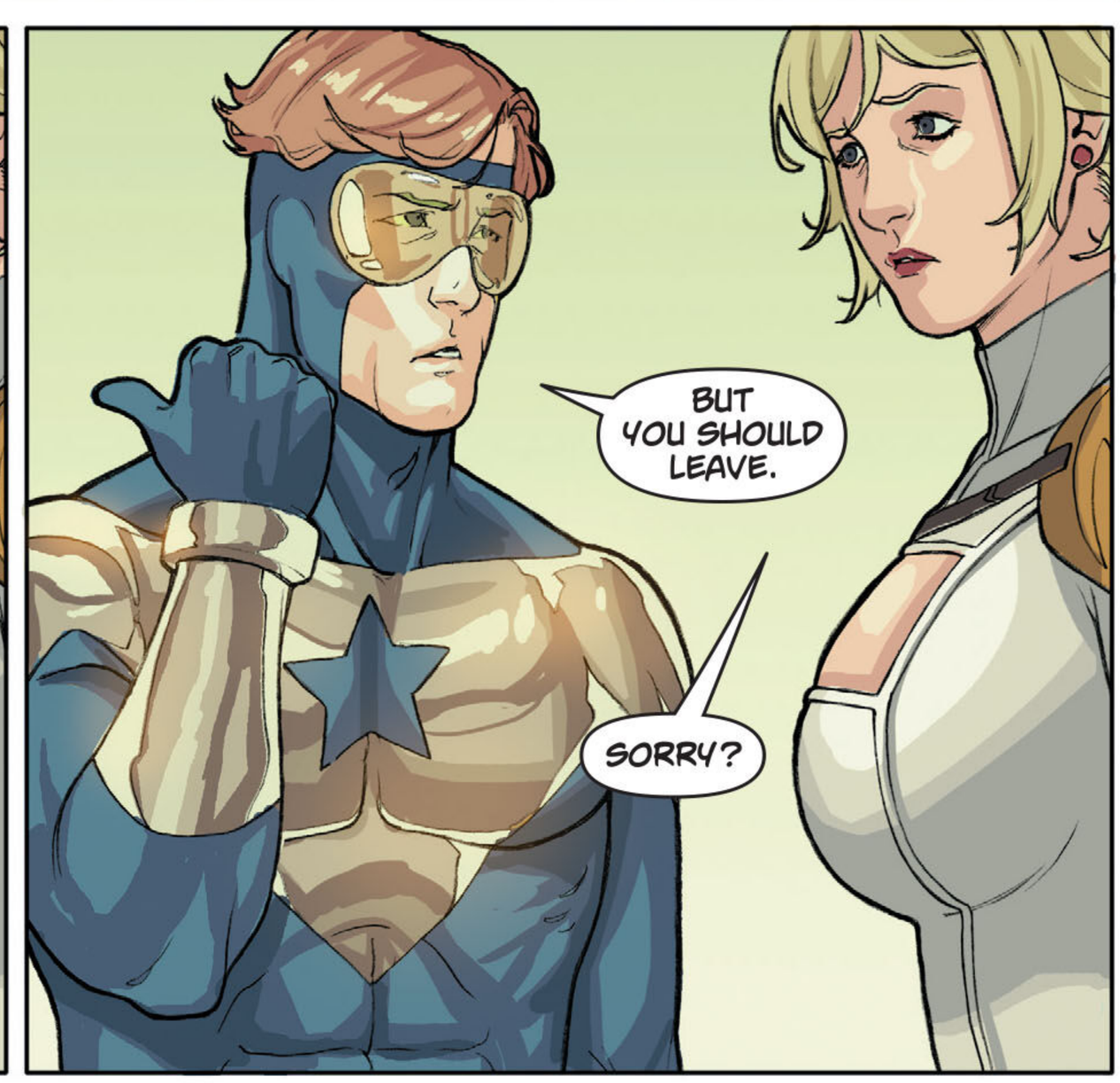

I THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU REINFORCED THIS DOOR, NICCO!
NO. I SAID I WAS GOING TO REINFORCE THAT DOOR! DO YOU RIP ALL DOORS OFF THEIR HINGES UNLESS THEY'RE REINFORCED?!
NO--BUT YOU SAID IT WAS REINFORCED!
I SAID, I WAS GONNA REINFORCE IT!
UNINTENTIONAL, EMBARRASSING, AND DUMB THINGS THAT ARE--NOT EXACTLY--OUR FAULT.

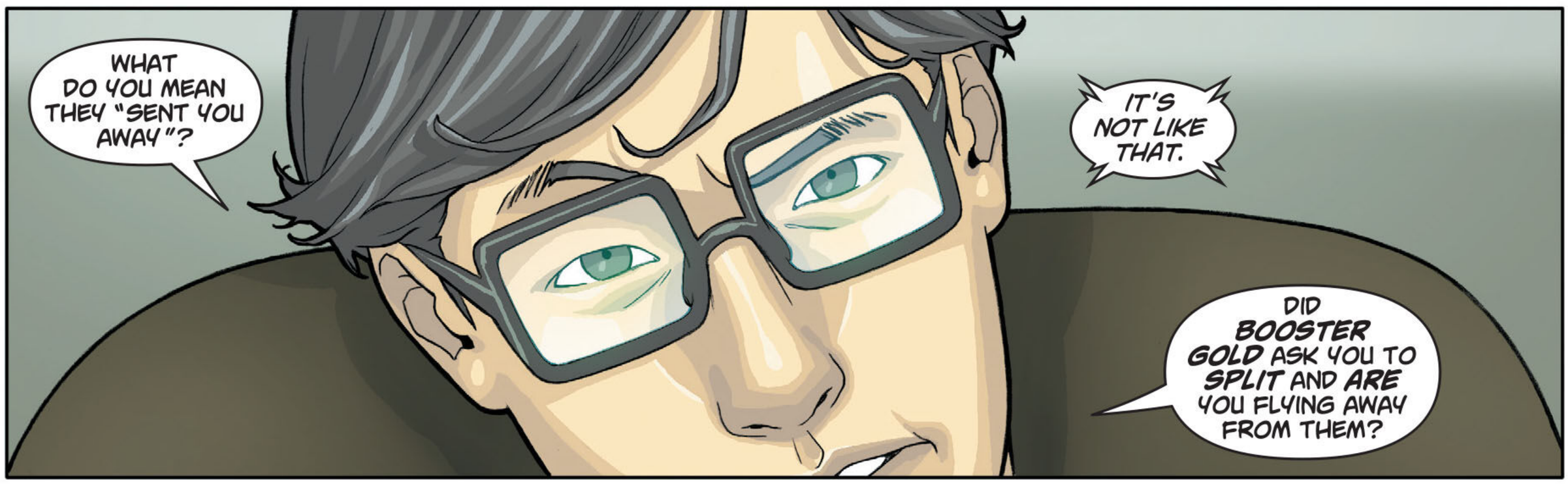

BUT WHEN YOU'RE A SUPER HERO, THE MAGNITUDE OF THE UNINTENTIONAL, EMBARRASSING, AND DUMB THINGS, WELL...
THEY CAN REALLY BURY THE NEEDLE IN THE RED ON THE "SCREW UP" SCALE.
LIKE--

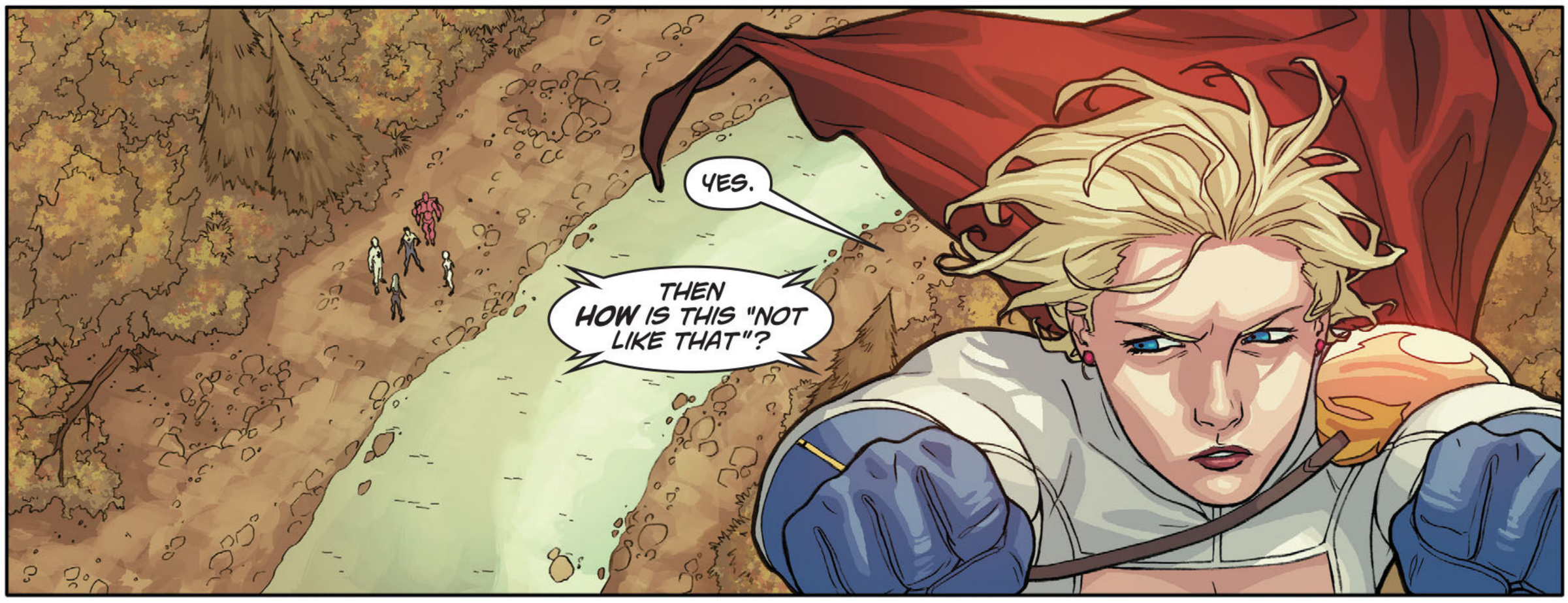
--GETTING INTO A FIGHT WITH SUPERMAN (WHICH IS BAD ENOUGH)--
--BUT ACTUALLY HALLUCINATING (AND BEATING UP ON) CAPTAIN ATOM!
BUUUUT, MY MIND WAS BEING CONTROLLED BY PSYCHOPATHIC WORLD-BEATER (AND MY OLD BOSS), MAX LORD.

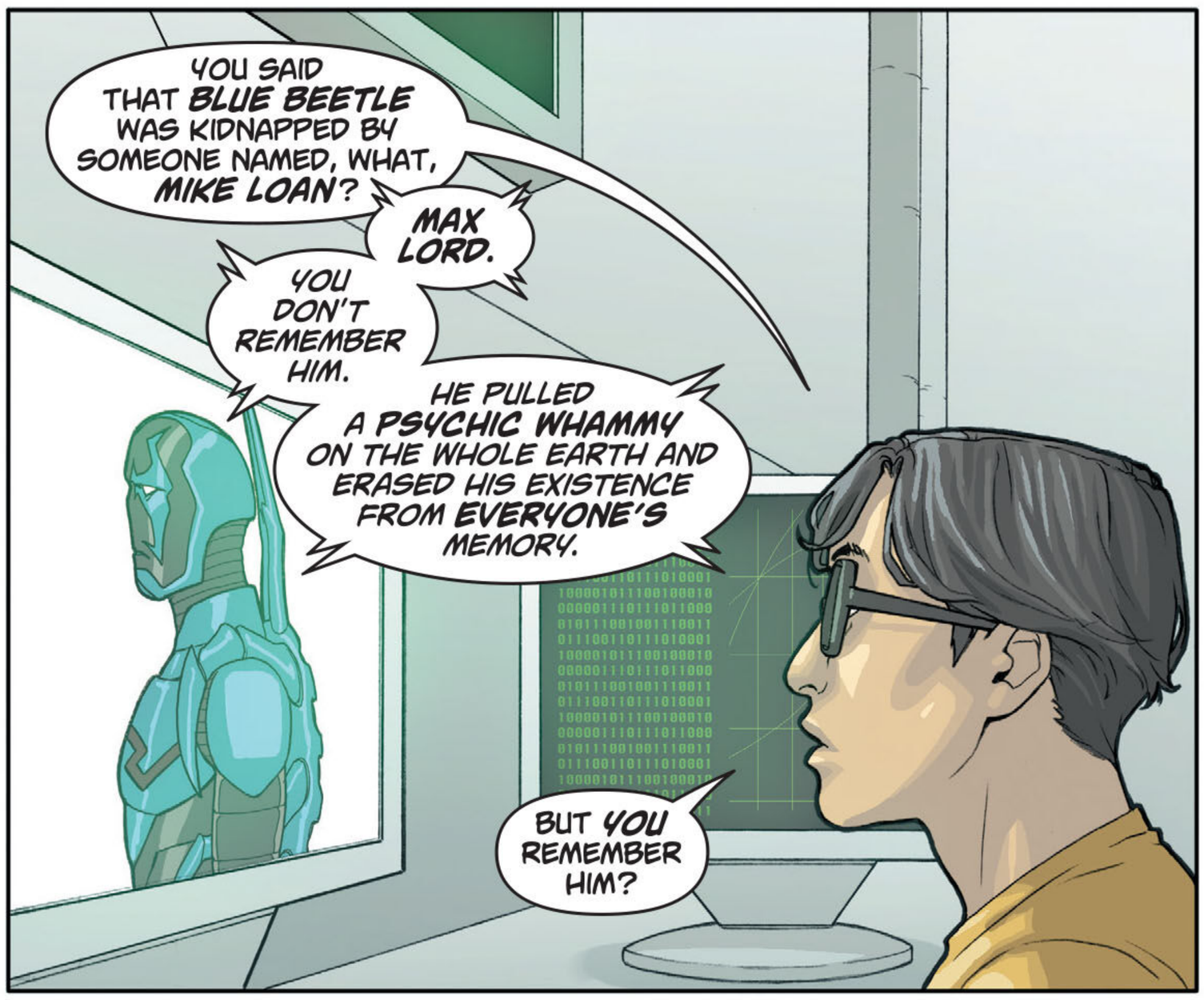
SO, IT WASN'T MY FAULT.
BUT, YA STILL FEEL STUPID.
AGAIN. REAL SORRY.
IT'S OKAY.
IT'S PRETTY FAR FROM "OKAY."
OLD FRIENDS
written by JUDD WINICK
cover SAMI BASRI
colors JESSICA KHOLINNE
letters JOHN J. HILL
cover SAMI BASRI with SUNNY GHO
associate editor CHRIS CONROY
editor JOEY CAVALIERI

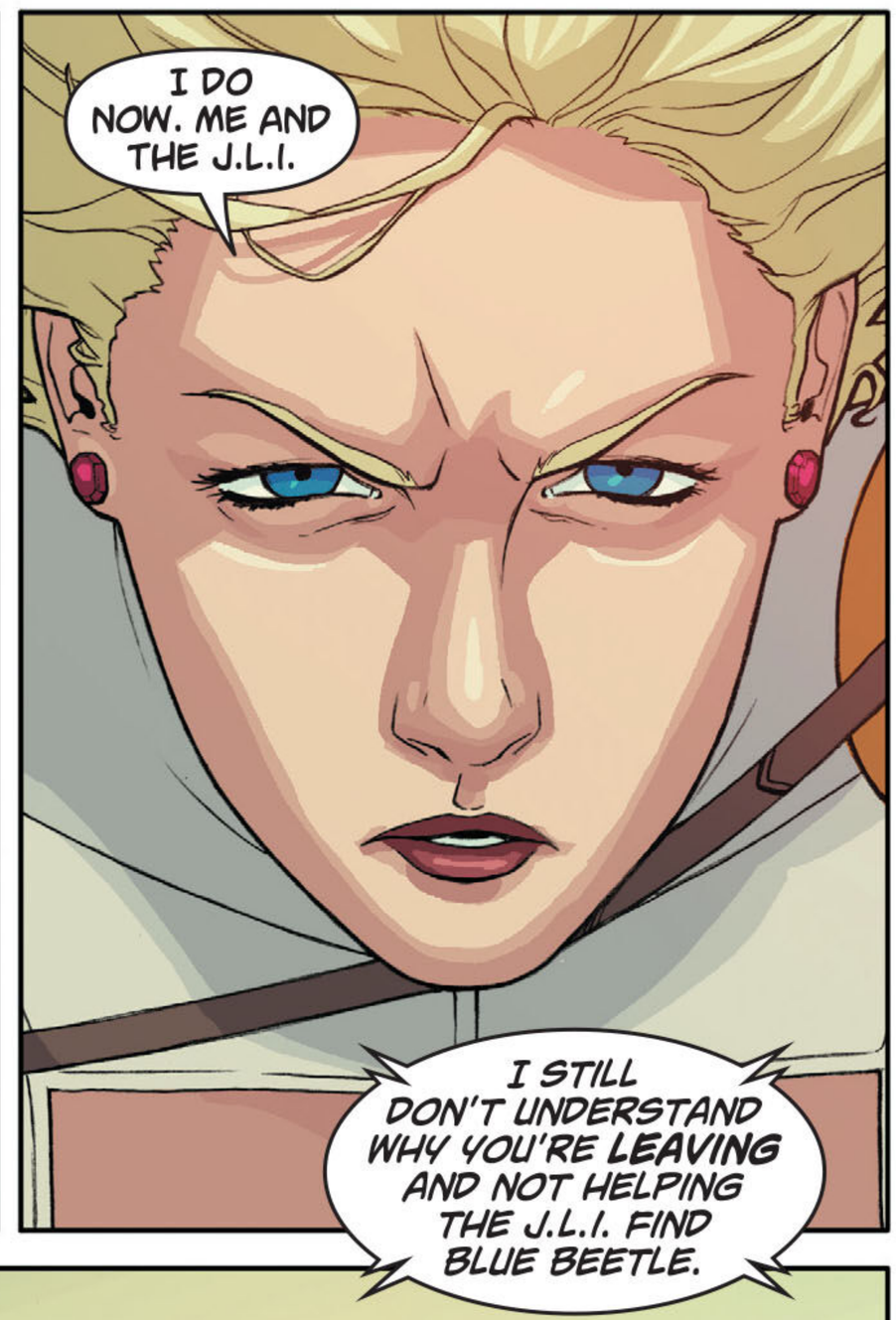

NO, SERIOUSLY-- DON'T DWELL ON IT.

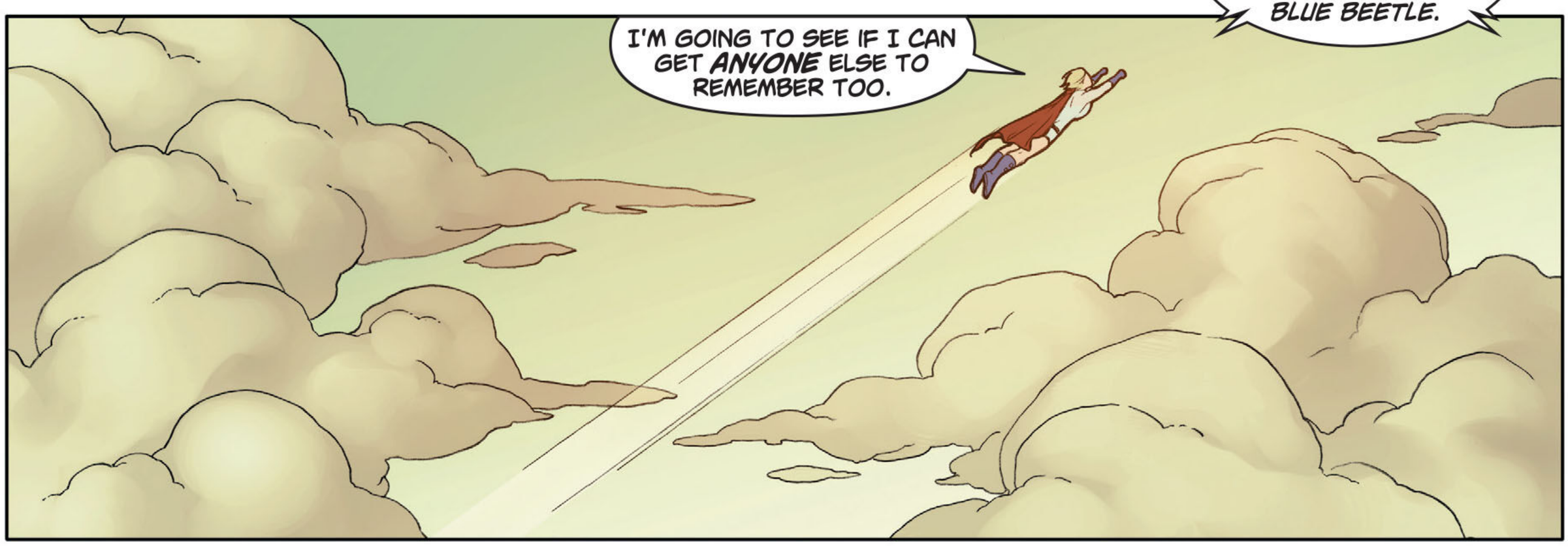

BUT YOU SHOULD LEAVE.
SORRY?


WHAT DO YOU MEAN THEY "SENT YOU AWAY"?
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT.
DID BOOSTER GOLD ASK YOU TO SPLIT AND ARE YOU FLYING AWAY FROM THEM?

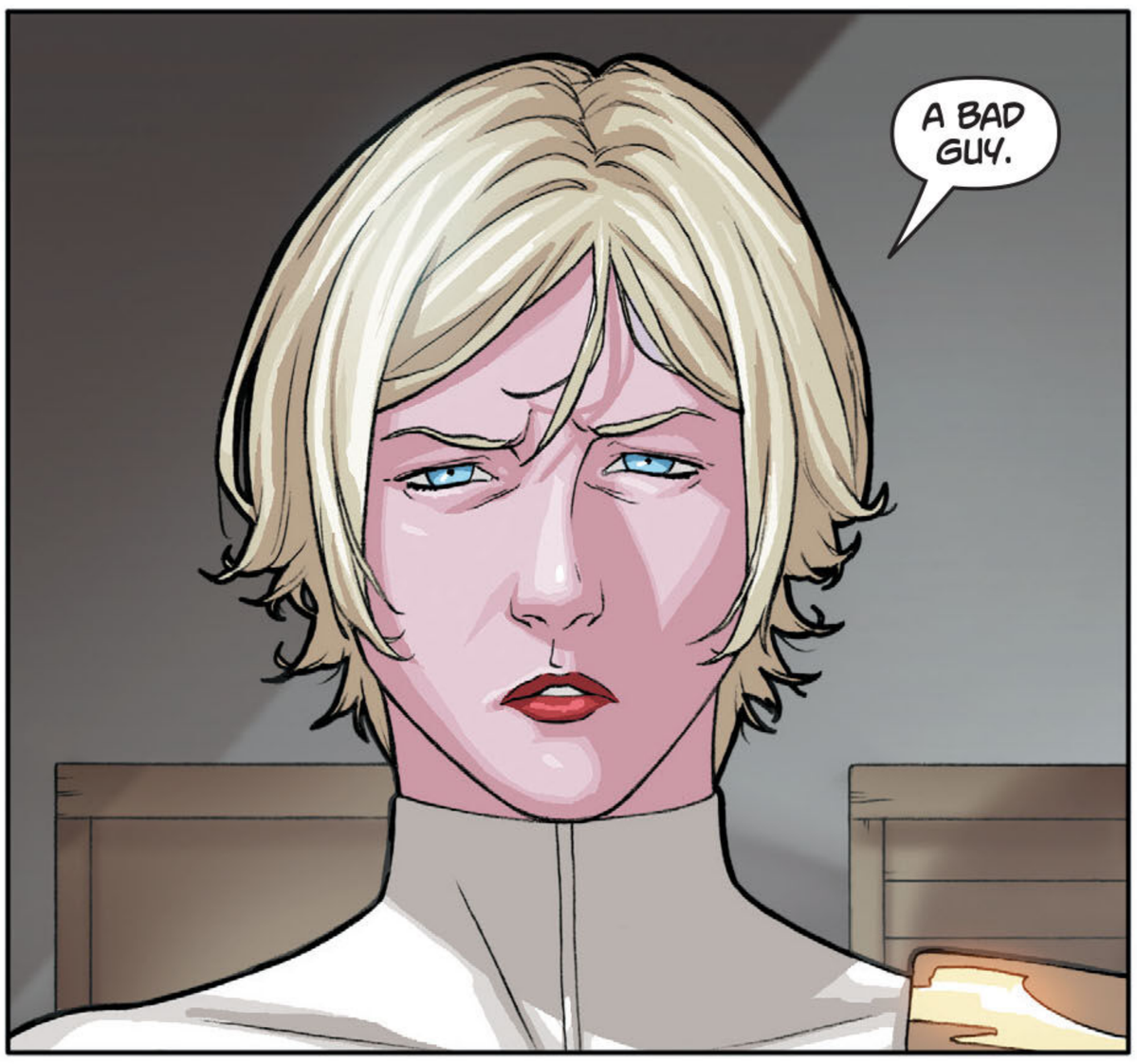

YES.
THEN HOW IS THIS "NOT LIKE THAT"?

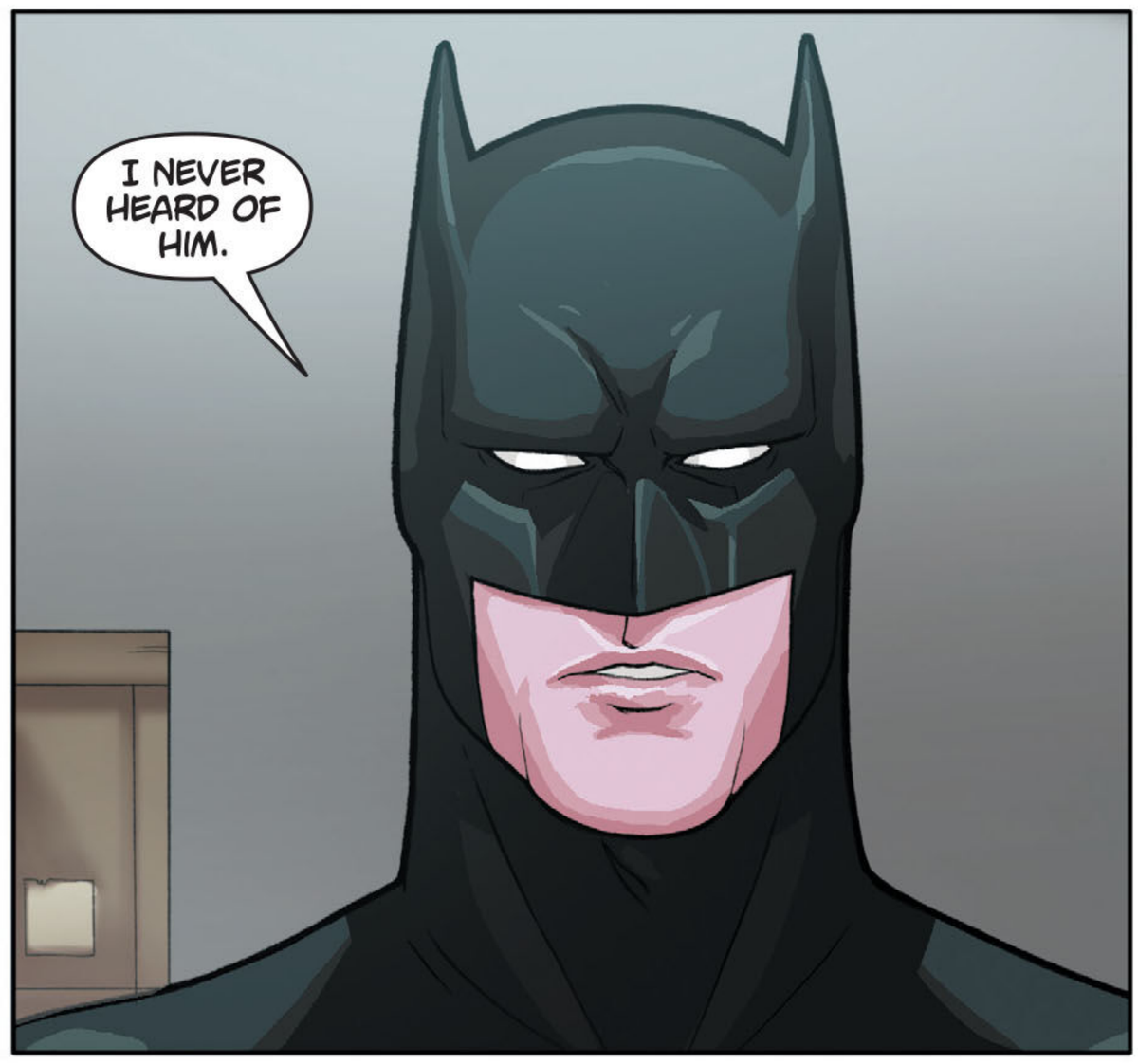

YOU SAID THAT BLUE BEETLE WAS KIDNAPPED BY SOMEONE NAMED, WHAT, MIKE LOAN?
MAX LORD.
YOU DON'T REMEMBER HIM.
HE PULLED A PSYCHIC WHAMMY ON THE WHOLE EARTH AND ERASED HIS EXISTENCE FROM EVERYONE'S MEMORY.
BUT YOU REMEMBER HIM?

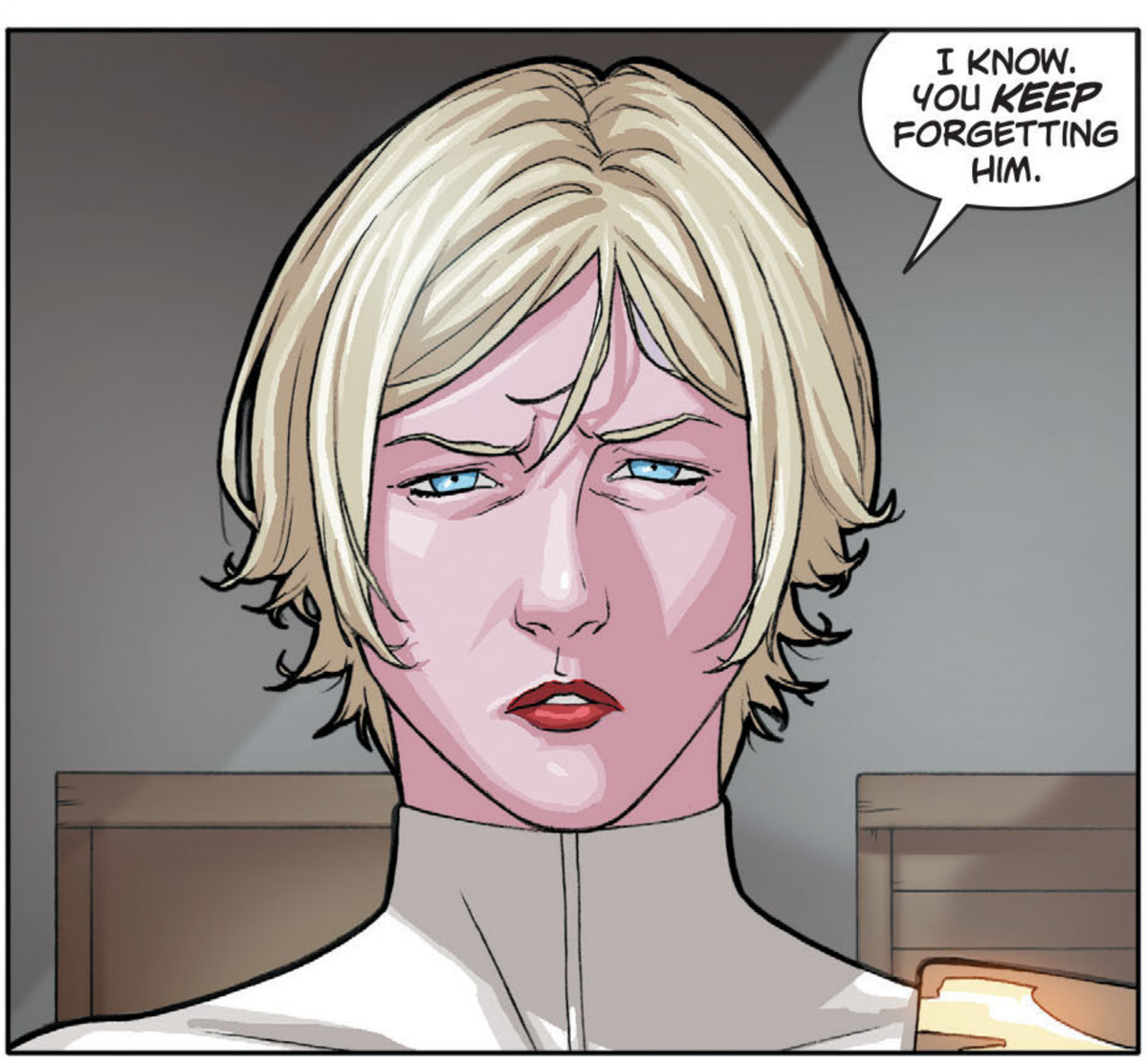

I DO NOW. ME AND THE J.L.I.
I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY YOU'RE LEAVING AND NOT HELPING THE J.L.I. FIND BLUE BEETLE.


I'M GOING TO SEE IF I CAN GET ANYONE ELSE TO REMEMBER TOO.

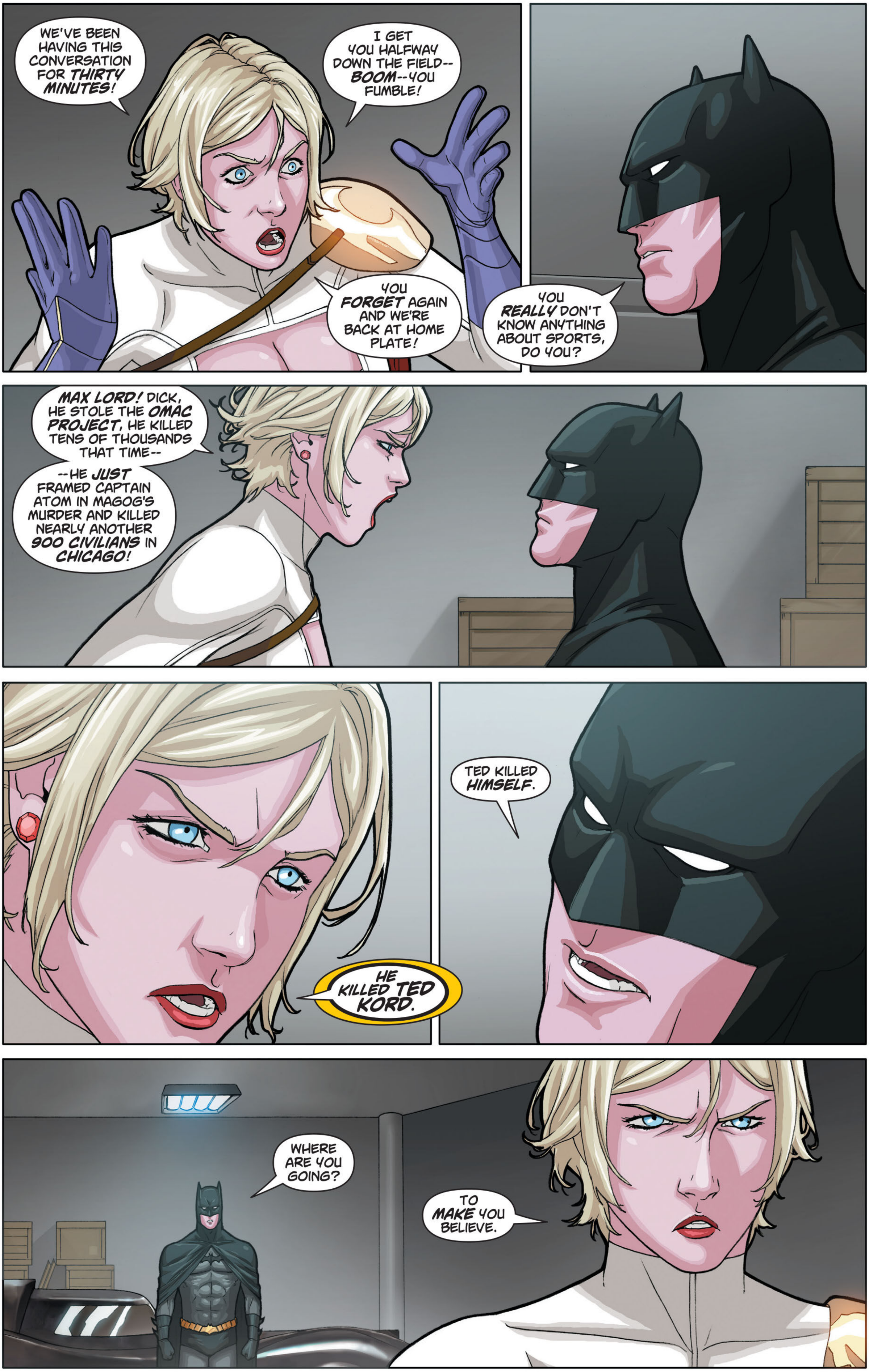
WHO IS MAX LORD?


A BAD GUY.

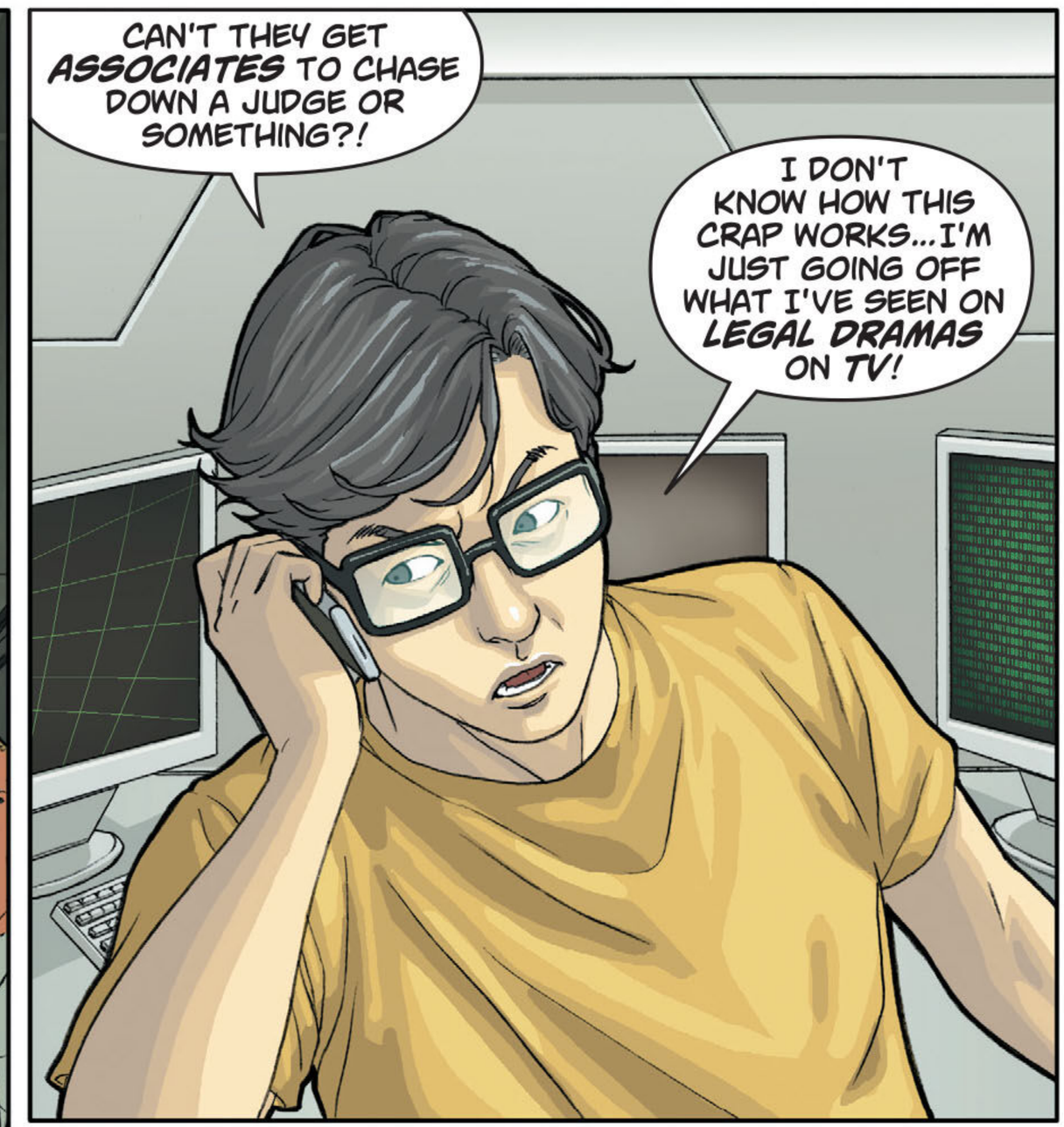

I NEVER HEARD OF HIM.


I KNOW. YOU KEEP FORGETTING HIM.

SORRY?


WE'VE BEEN HAVING THIS CONVERSATION FOR THIRTY MINUTES!
I GET YOU HALFWAY DOWN THE FIELD-- BOOM--YOU FUMBLE!
YOU FORGET AGAIN AND WE'RE BACK AT HOME PLATE!
YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT SPORTS, DO YOU?
MAX LORD! DICK, HE STOLE THE OMAC PROJECT, HE KILLED TENS OF THOUSANDS THAT TIME--
--HE JUST FRAMED CAPTAIN ATOM IN MAGOG'S MURDER AND KILLED NEARLY ANOTHER 900 CIVILIANS IN CHICAGO!
HE KILLED TED KORD.
TED KILLED HIMSELF.
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
TO MAKE YOU BELIEVE.

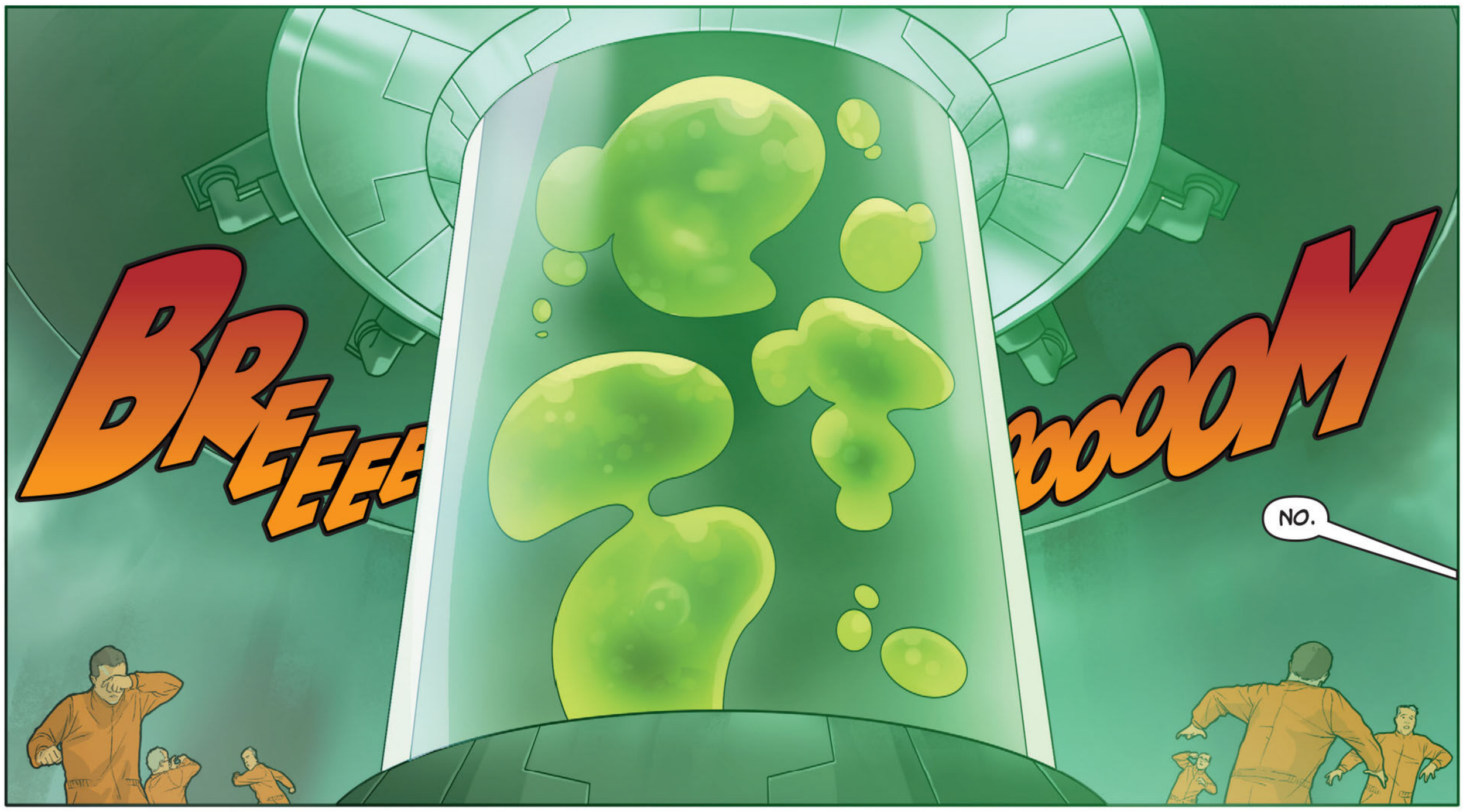
"I'LL BE RIGHT BACK."
STARRWARE INC. OR WHAT'S LEFT OF IT...
SIMON PETERS. EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT.
I KNOW!! WE NEED SOMEBODY TO GET AN INJUNCTION, BUT ALL OF OUR LAWYERS ARE IN COURT!
SIMON, THERE ARE FIFTY LAWYERS AT THAT FIRM!


CAN'T THEY GET ASSOCIATES TO CHASE DOWN A JUDGE OR SOMETHING?!
I DON'T KNOW HOW THIS CRAP WORKS...I'M JUST GOING OFF WHAT I'VE SEEN ON LEGAL DRAMAS ON TV!

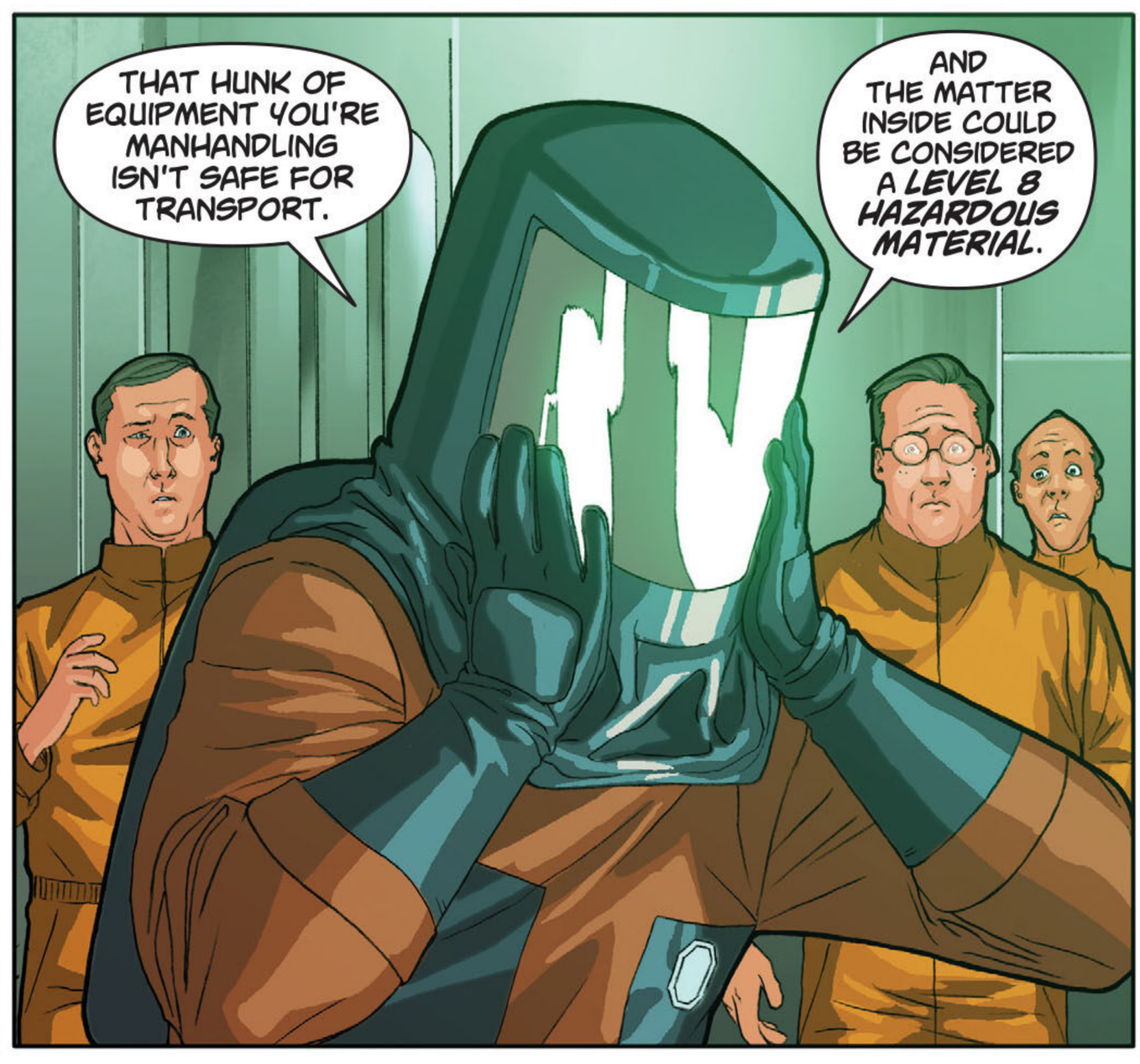
IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE...
THEY NEED TO GET TO OUR JUDGE... WHO HAS TO REVIEW THE MATERIAL, COME TO A RULING, ISSUE THE INJUNCTION...WE DON'T HAVE THAT KIND OF TIME--

"--WE'VE GOT PEOPLE HERE LITERALLY TAKING THE ENTIRE LAB!!"
I'M SORRY IF THIS CATCHES YOU ALL OFF GUARD...

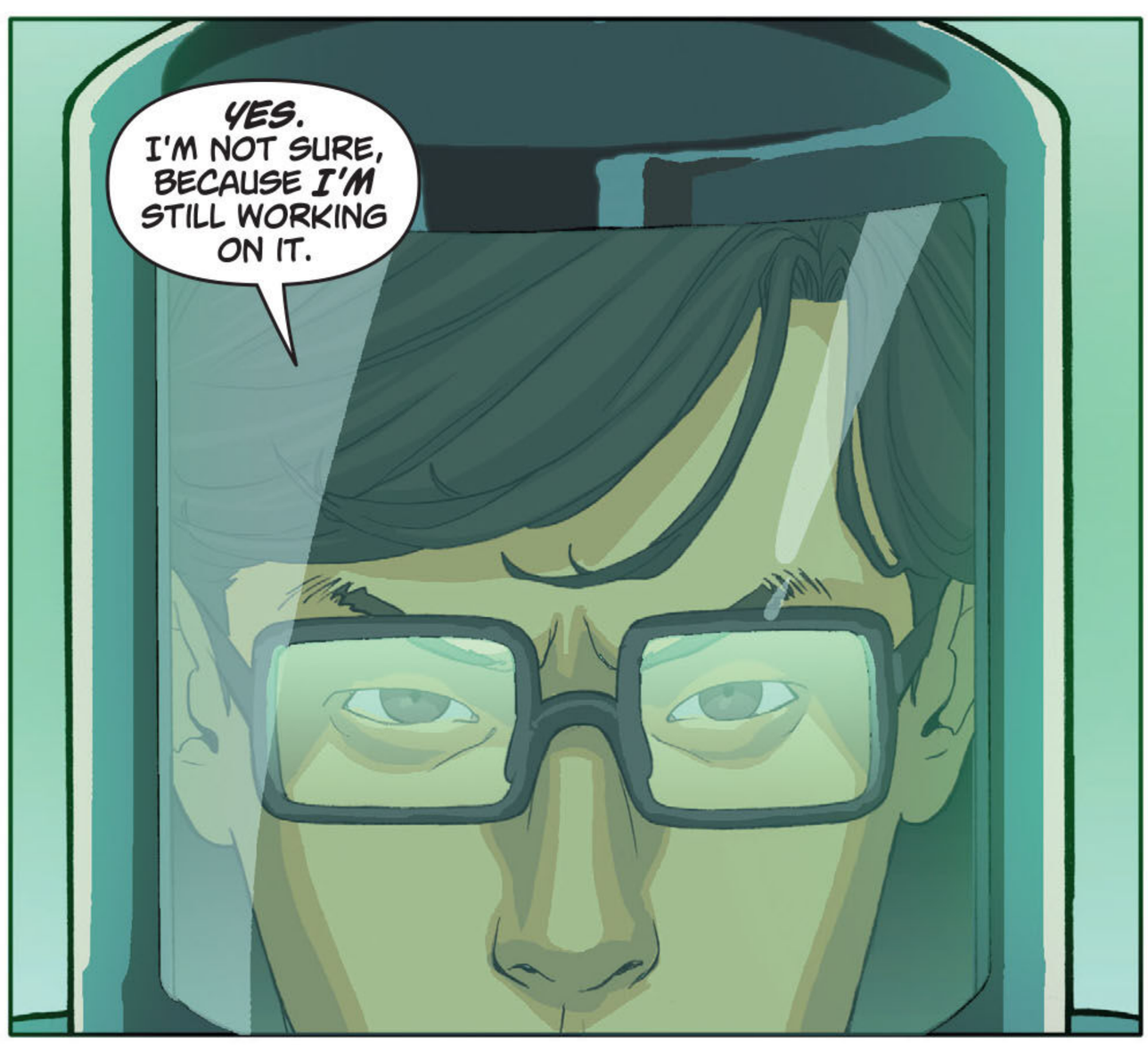
BUT AS YOU CAN SEE, MR. PETERS, IT'S ALL IN ORDER.
THE BANK HAS SOLD THE REMAINING ASSETS OF STARRWARE'S RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO DAY WORK INDUSTRIES.
IT IS SIMPLY RECOUPING ON THE DEFAULTED LOANS.
BUT THEY CAN'T HAVE THIS WORK--THIS EQUIPMENT. IT WAS DISCUSSED.
THE INDIVIDUAL PRIMARY INVESTIGATORS HAVE A PROPRIETARY RIGHT TO THIS PROPERTY!
THOSE RIGHTS WERE FORFEITED IN LIEU OF SEVERAL LOAN EXTENSIONS. AND THE BANK, IN TURN, HAS SOLD IT TO DAY WORK.
NO! ALL THIS STILL BELONGS TO OUR SCIENTISTS! NOT OUR COMPANY!
SIR, I'M GOING TO HAVE TO ASK YOU TO STEP ASIDE. NOW.
NO, PLEASE--! THIS ISN'T--! PLEASE, IF YOU COULD JUST WAIT UNTIL OUR ATTORNEYS HAVE HAD--
THAT'S NOT REQUIRED, SIR.
JUST WAIT!!
SIR! STEP ASIDE!
CWOOOOOOMMM


BREEEEE
BOOOOOM
NO.

YOU STEP ASIDE.

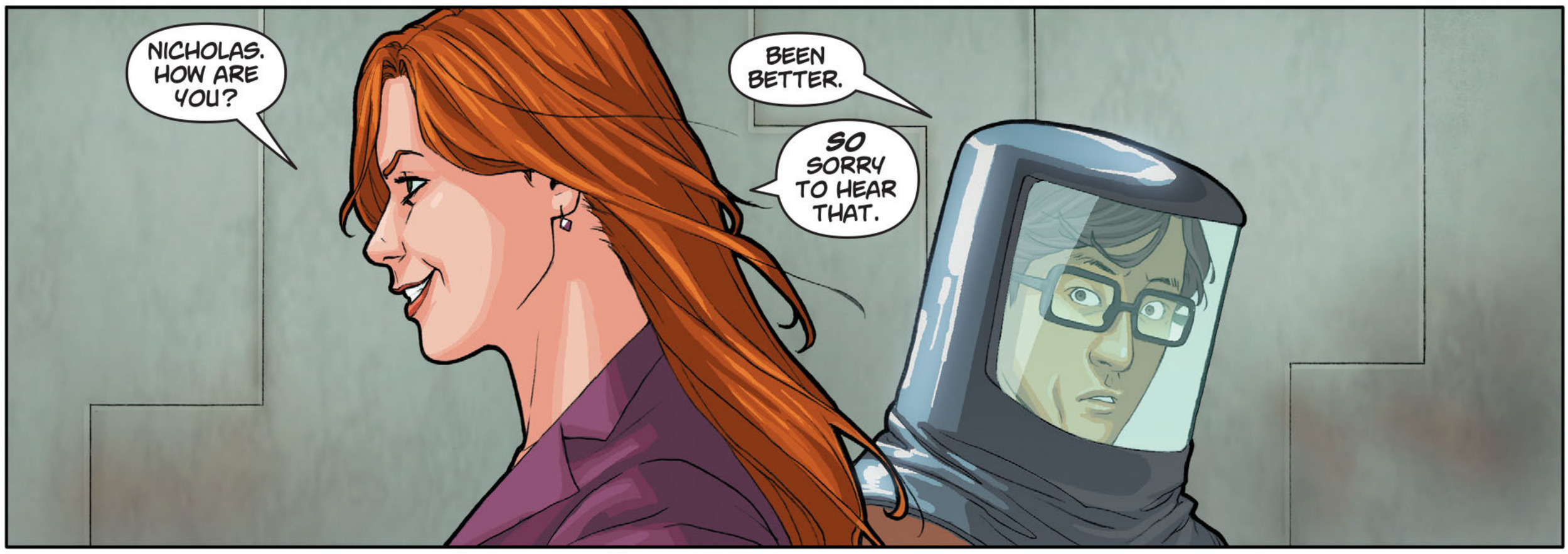

THAT HUNK OF EQUIPMENT YOU'RE MANHANDLING ISN'T SAFE FOR TRANSPORT.
AND THE MATTER INSIDE COULD BE CONSIDERED A LEVEL 8 HAZARDOUS MATERIAL.

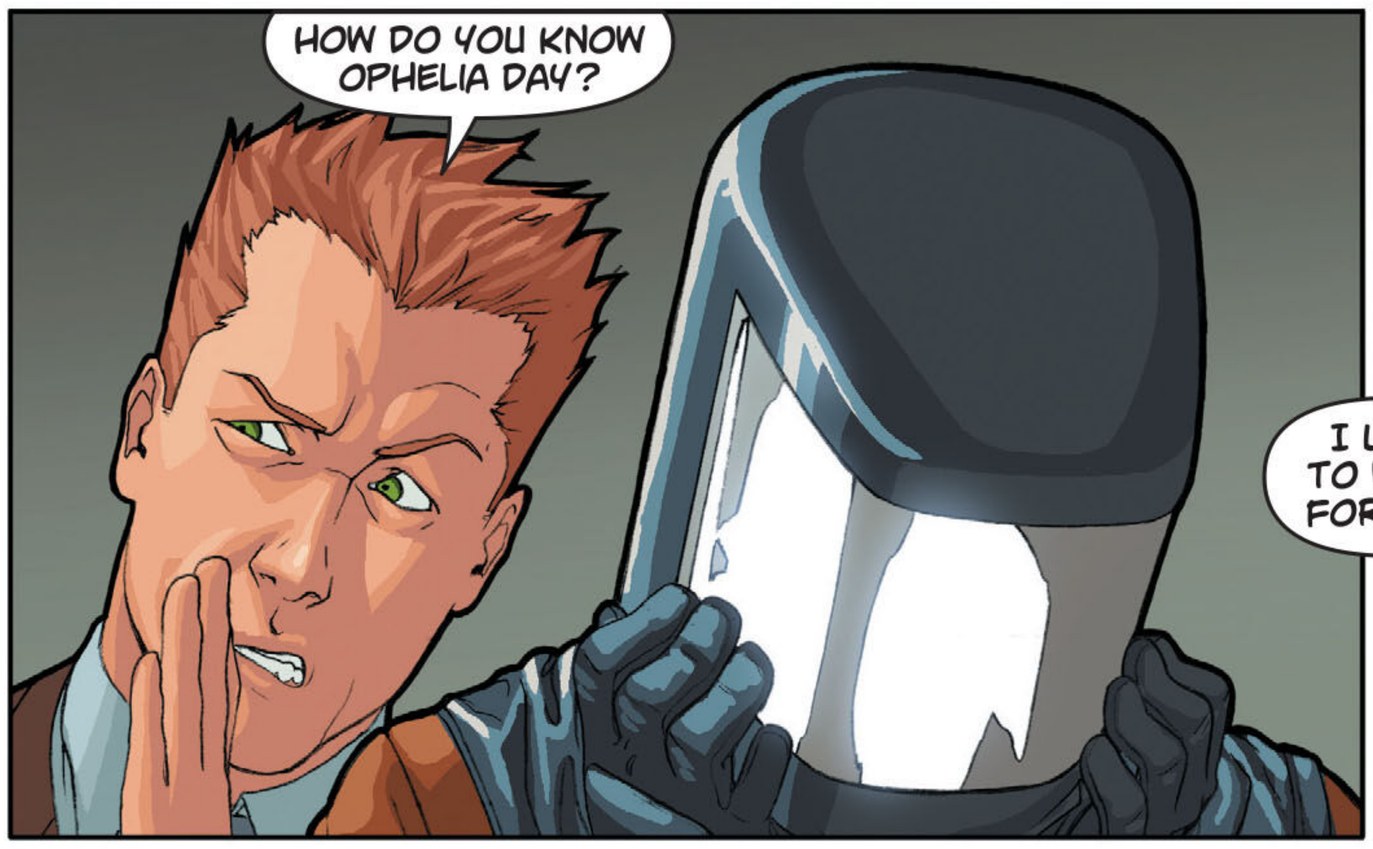
COULD BE CONSIDERED?


YES. I'M NOT SURE, BECAUSE I'M STILL WORKING ON IT.

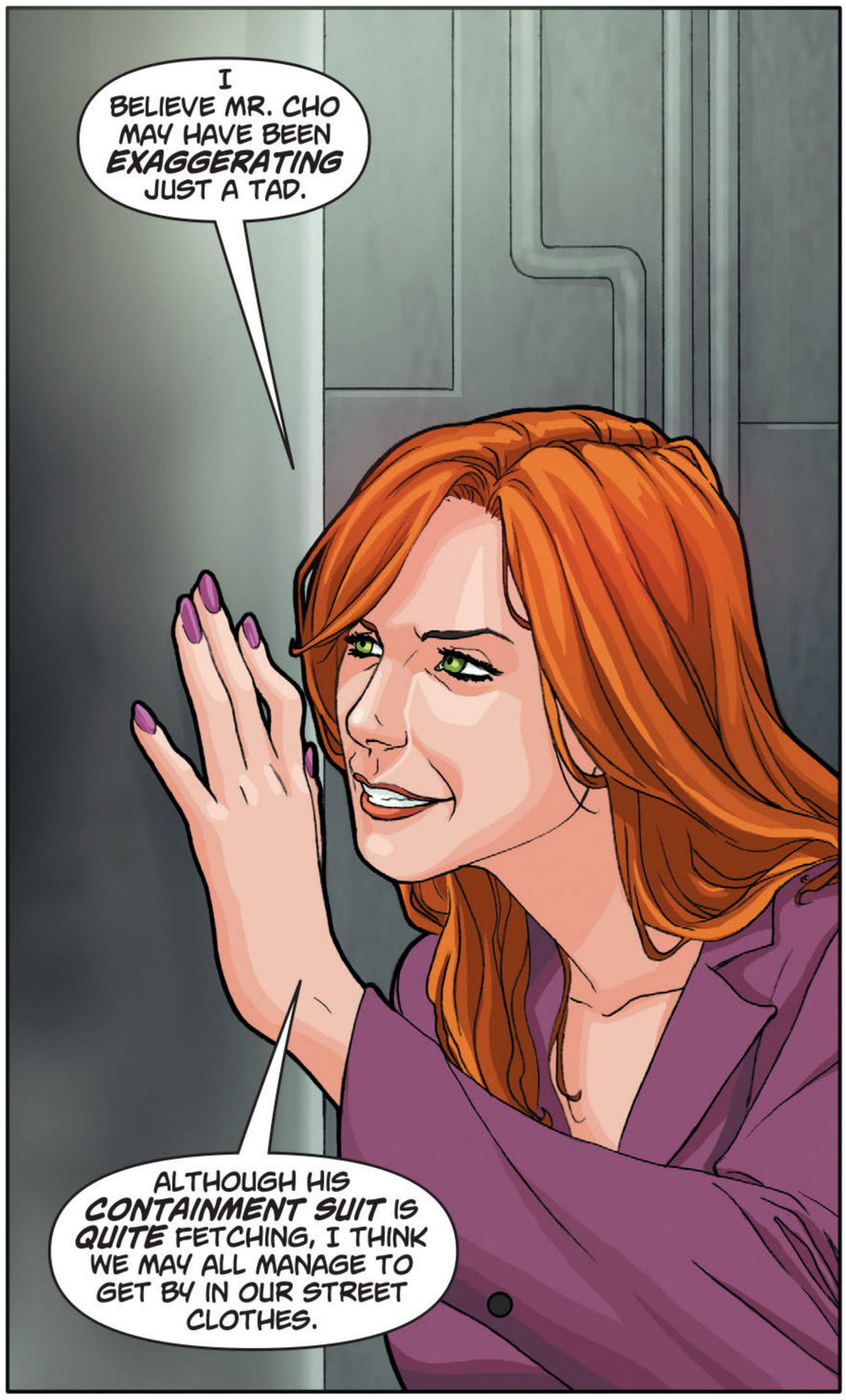
IF THIS IS A HAZMAT SITUATION, THEN WE CAN'T OKAY IT. I GOT TO CALL IT IN.
I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANY NEED FOR THAT. WE HAVE PEOPLE HERE WHO ARE MORE THAN CAPABLE--
SHE'S A LAWYER. YOU THINK SHE KNOWS WHAT SHE'S TALKING ABOUT?
NO. SHE DOESN'T.

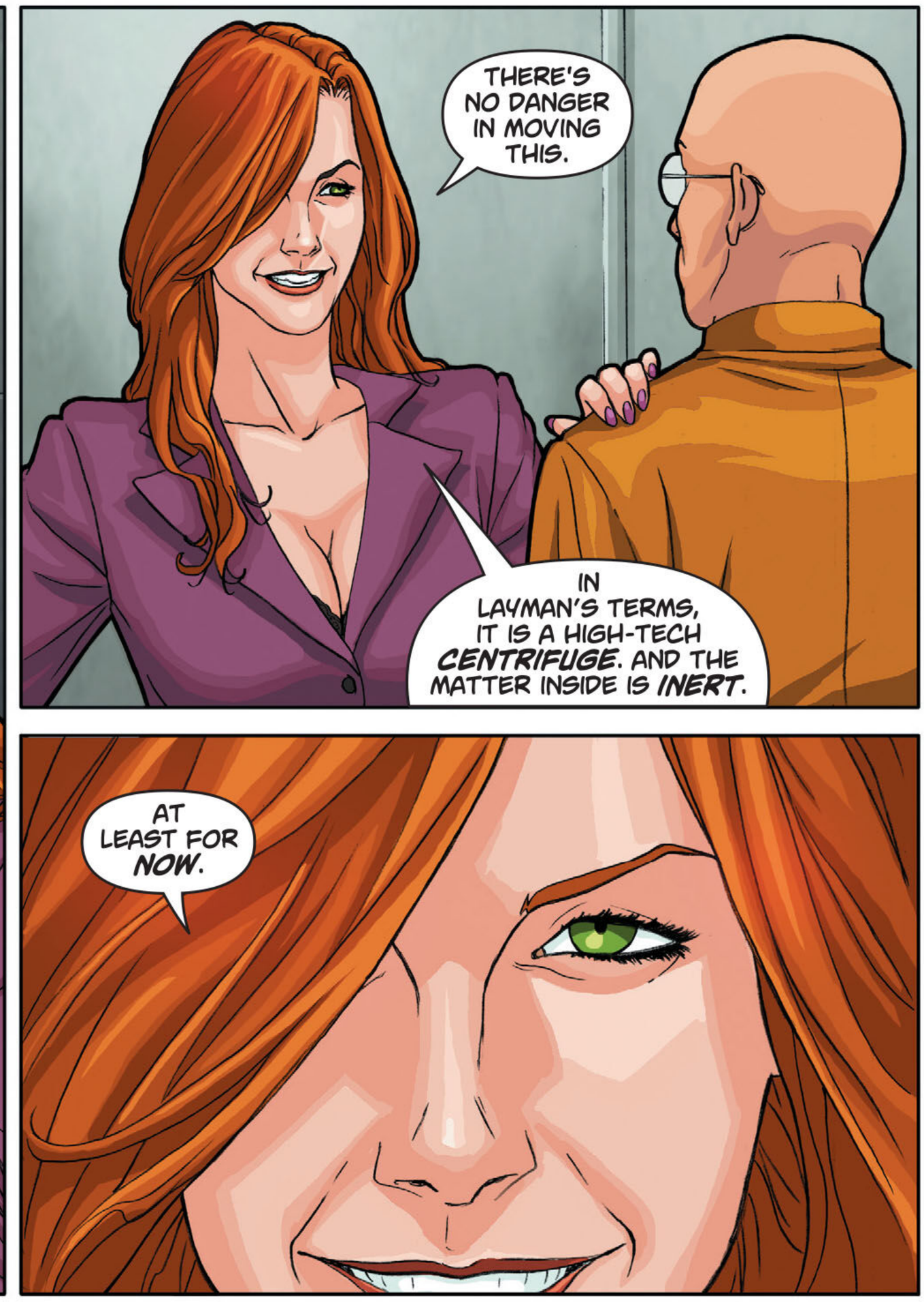
BUT I DO.
BEEP
DR. OPHELIA DAY. C.E.O. AND HEAD OF R&D FOR DAY WORK INDUSTRIES.

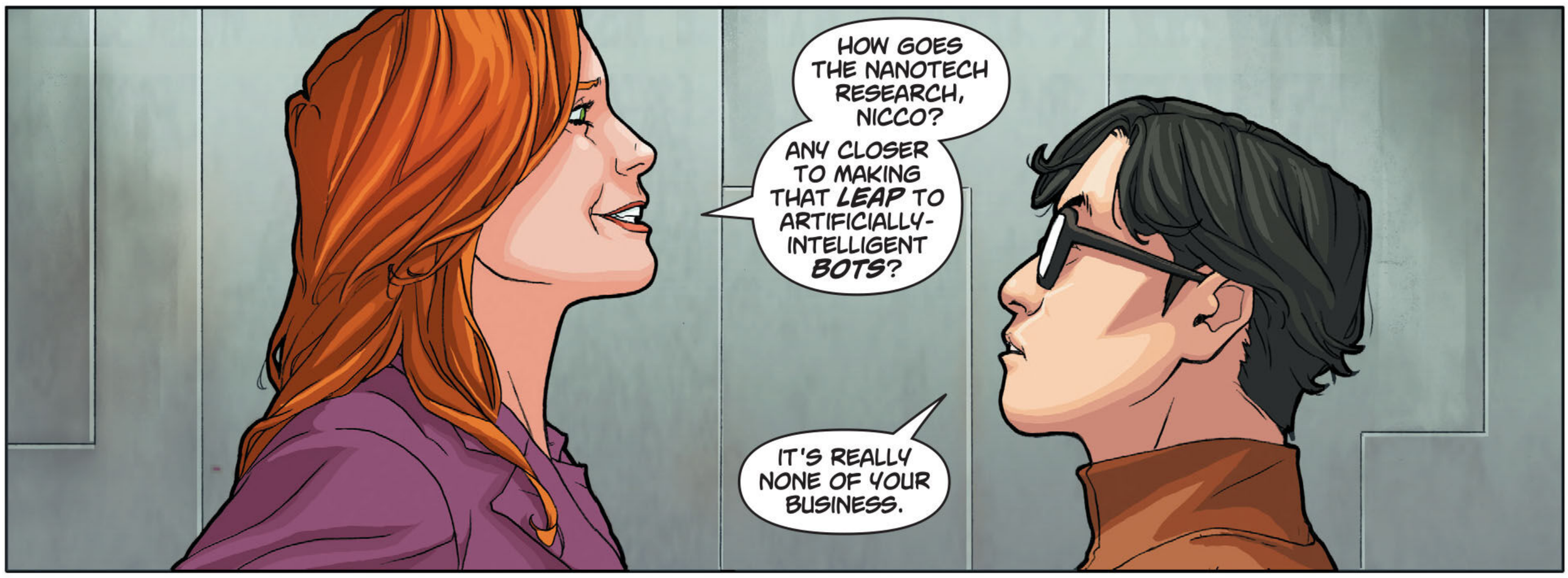

NICHOLAS. HOW ARE YOU?
BEEN BETTER.
SO SORRY TO HEAR THAT.

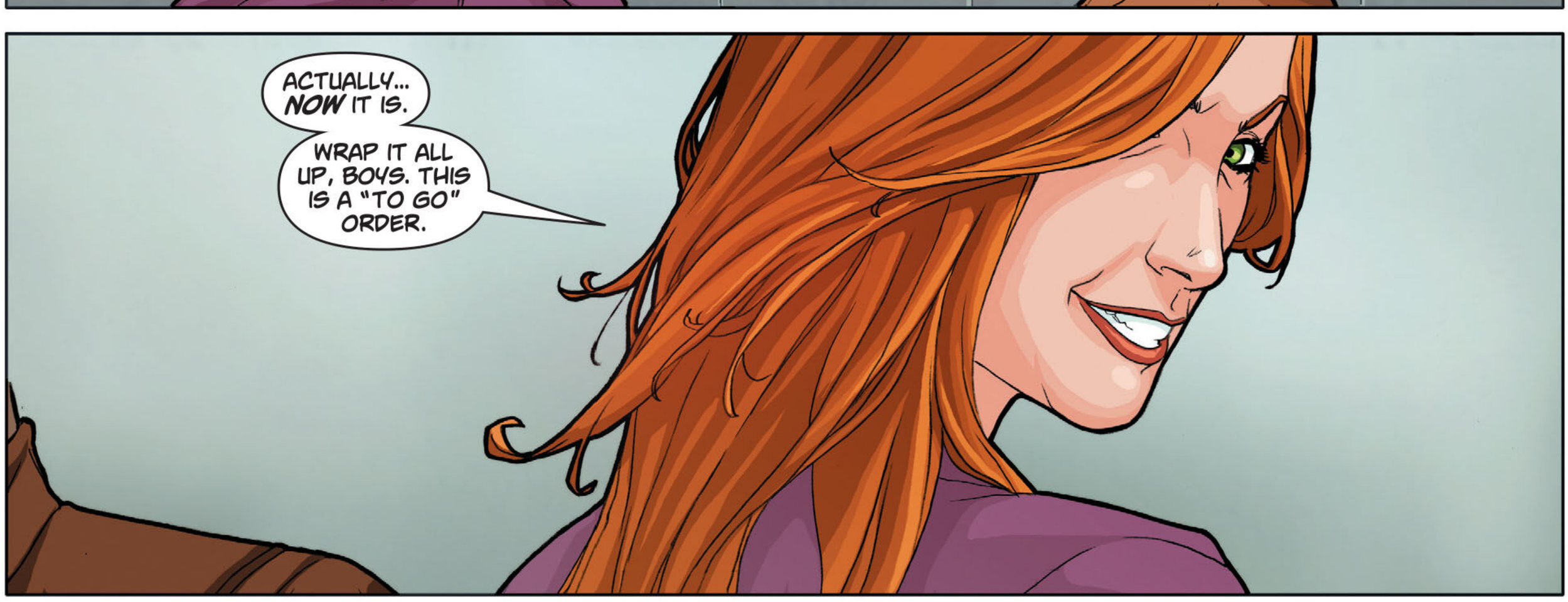

HOW DO YOU KNOW OPHELIA DAY?

I USED TO WORK FOR HER.

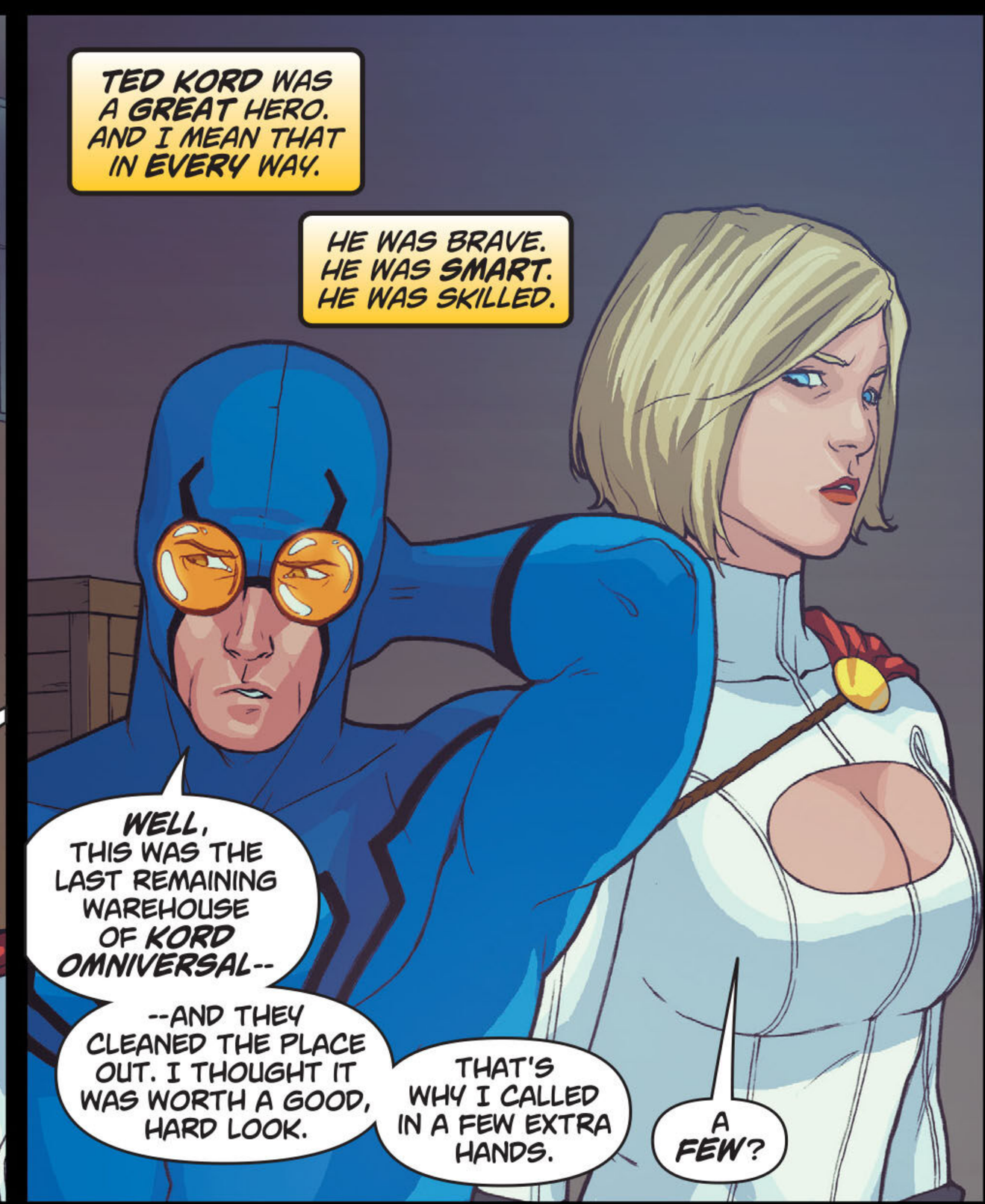

I BELIEVE MR. CHO MAY HAVE BEEN EXAGGERATING JUST A TAD.
ALTHOUGH HIS CONTAINMENT SUIT IS QUITE FETCHING, I THINK WE MAY ALL MANAGE TO GET BY IN OUR STREET CLOTHES.


THERE'S NO DANGER IN MOVING THIS.
IN LAYMAN'S TERMS, IT IS A HIGH-TECH CENTRIFUGE. AND THE MATTER INSIDE IS INERT.
AT LEAST FOR NOW.


HOW GOES THE NANOTECH RESEARCH, NICCO?
ANY CLOSER TO MAKING THAT LEAP TO ARTIFICIALLY-INTELLIGENT BOTS?
IT'S REALLY NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.


ACTUALLY... NOW IT IS.
WRAP IT ALL UP, BOYS. THIS IS A "TO GO" ORDER.

YEARS AGO, AND MANY CRISES YET TO BE FACED...
WE NEVER TOOK HIM SERIOUSLY.
WELL, TO BE HONEST...
I NEVER TOOK HIM SERIOUSLY.
IT'S A ROBBERY?
YEAH.
THAT'S IT?


TED KORD WAS A GREAT HERO. AND I MEAN THAT IN EVERY WAY.
HE WAS BRAVE. HE WAS SMART. HE WAS SKILLED.
WELL, THIS WAS THE LAST REMAINING WAREHOUSE OF KORD OMNIVERSAL--
--AND THEY CLEANED THE PLACE OUT. I THOUGHT IT WAS WORTH A GOOD, HARD LOOK.
THAT'S WHY I CALLED IN A FEW EXTRA HANDS.
A FEW?

BUT SOMETIMES, HE JUST SEEMED GOOFY.
TED, YOU GATHERED A GROUP THAT COULD TAKE ON DARKSEID.
I JUST WANTED TO COVER ALL THE ANGLES.

LOOK, I'M NOT UNSYMPA-THETIC.
TWO GUARDS ARE LYING OUT THERE ON THE ASPHALT WITH A TICKET TO THE MORGUE.
BUT THIS FEELS--REALLY FEELS--LIKE A POLICE MATTER. WHAT EXACTLY ARE YOU AFTER?
I DON'T KNOW, BUT SOMETHING IS GOING ON.

SIX DAYS AGO, TWENTY MILLION DOLLARS FROM KORD OMNIVERSAL WAS SIPHONED THROUGH WAYNETECH AND THEN SPLIT OFF TO SEVERAL DUMMY CORPORATIONS.
AND THE ONLY THING I HAVE TO GO ON IS A NAME ON ONE RECEIPT.
O.M.A.C.

THEN YOU SHOULD LOOK INTO IT, TED.
YOU.
DON'T CALL IN THE CAVALRY UNLESS THERE'S AN ARMY ABOUT TO SWOOP DOWN.

YEAH. WELL, ARMIES DON'T SWOOP DOWN LIKE THEY USED TO.
NOWADAYS, IT'S NEVER QUITE SO OBVIOUS.

I THINK WE'RE GONNA GO.

OKAY.

I'M SORRY.

IT'S OKAY.

CALL IF, Y'KNOW...

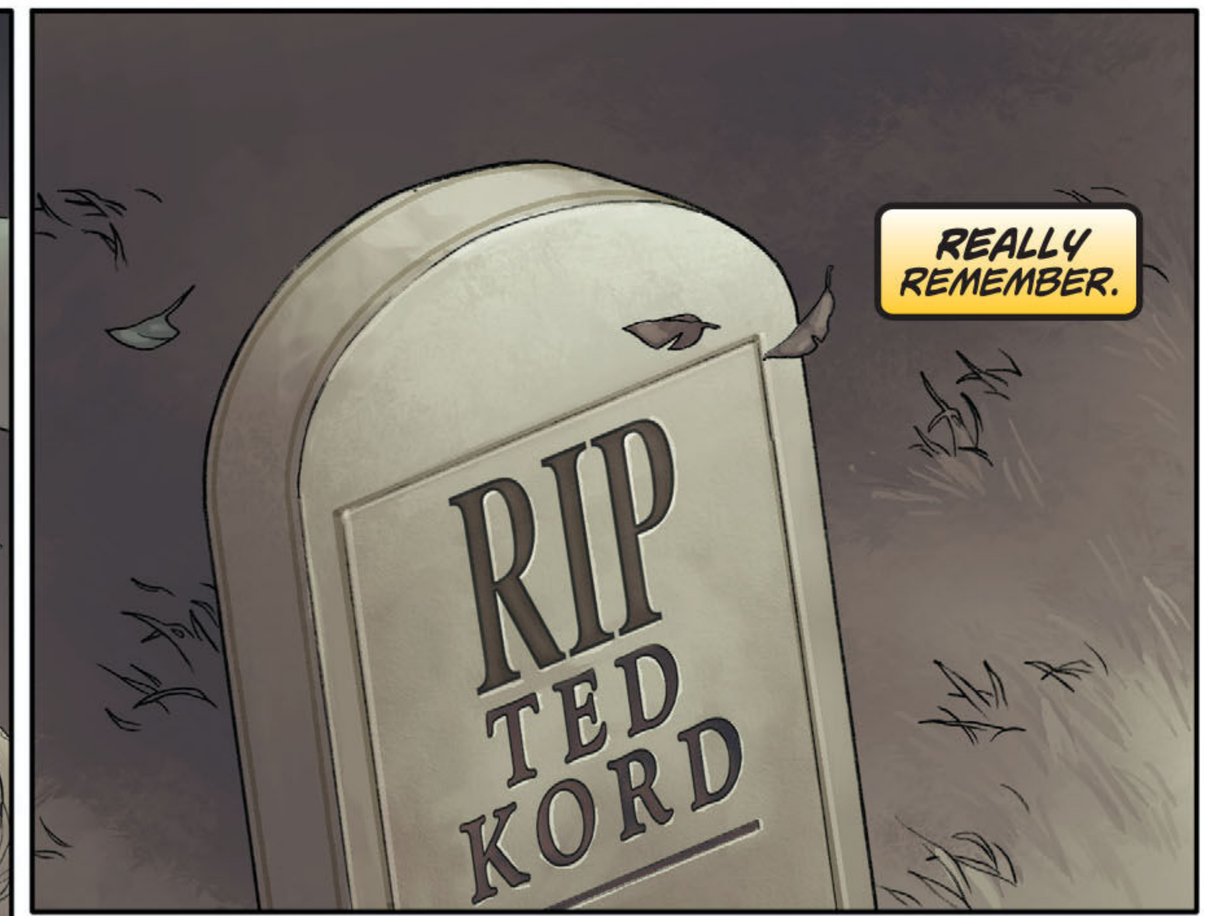
I WILL.

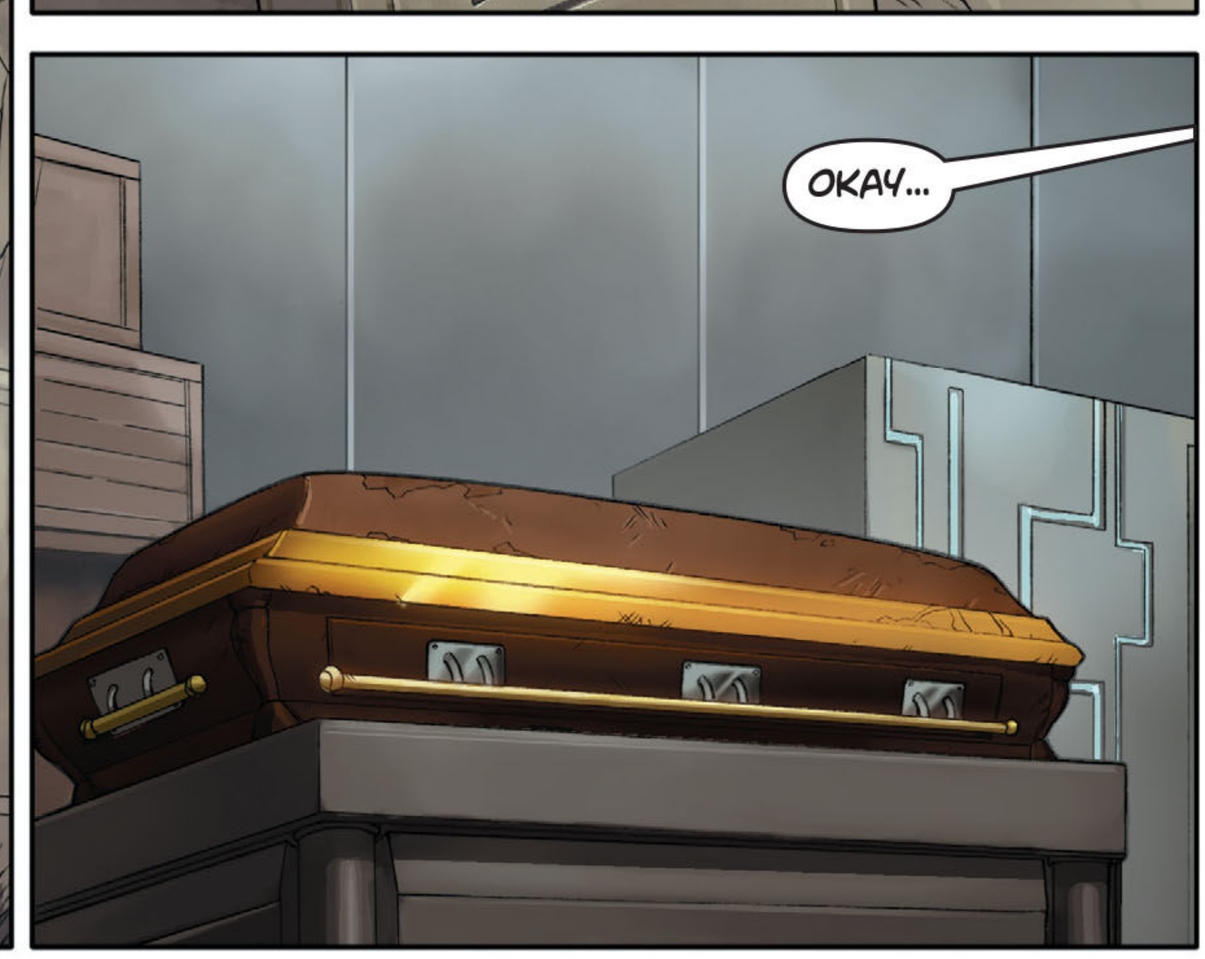
THAT WAS THE LAST TIME I EVER SPOKE TO HIM.

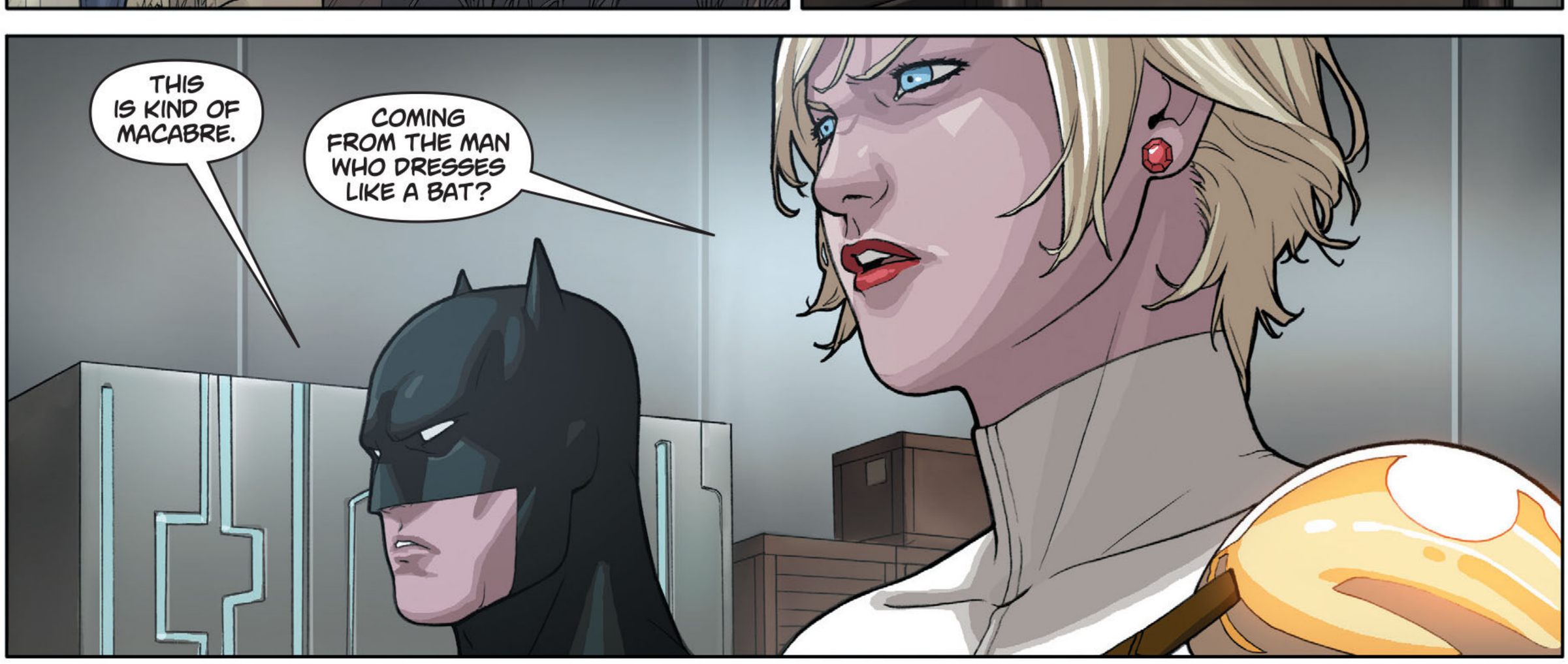
AND HE WAS RIGHT. SOMETHING WAS GOING ON.

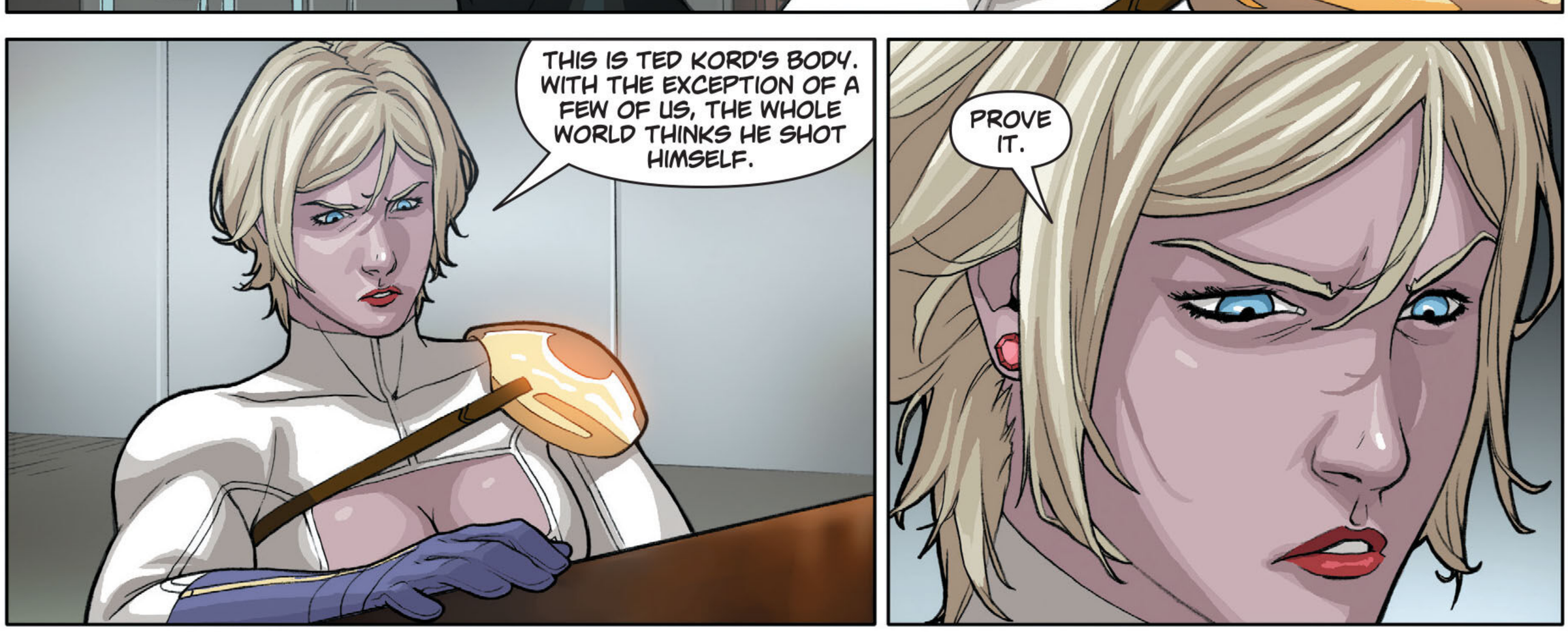
AND IT GOT HIM KILLED.

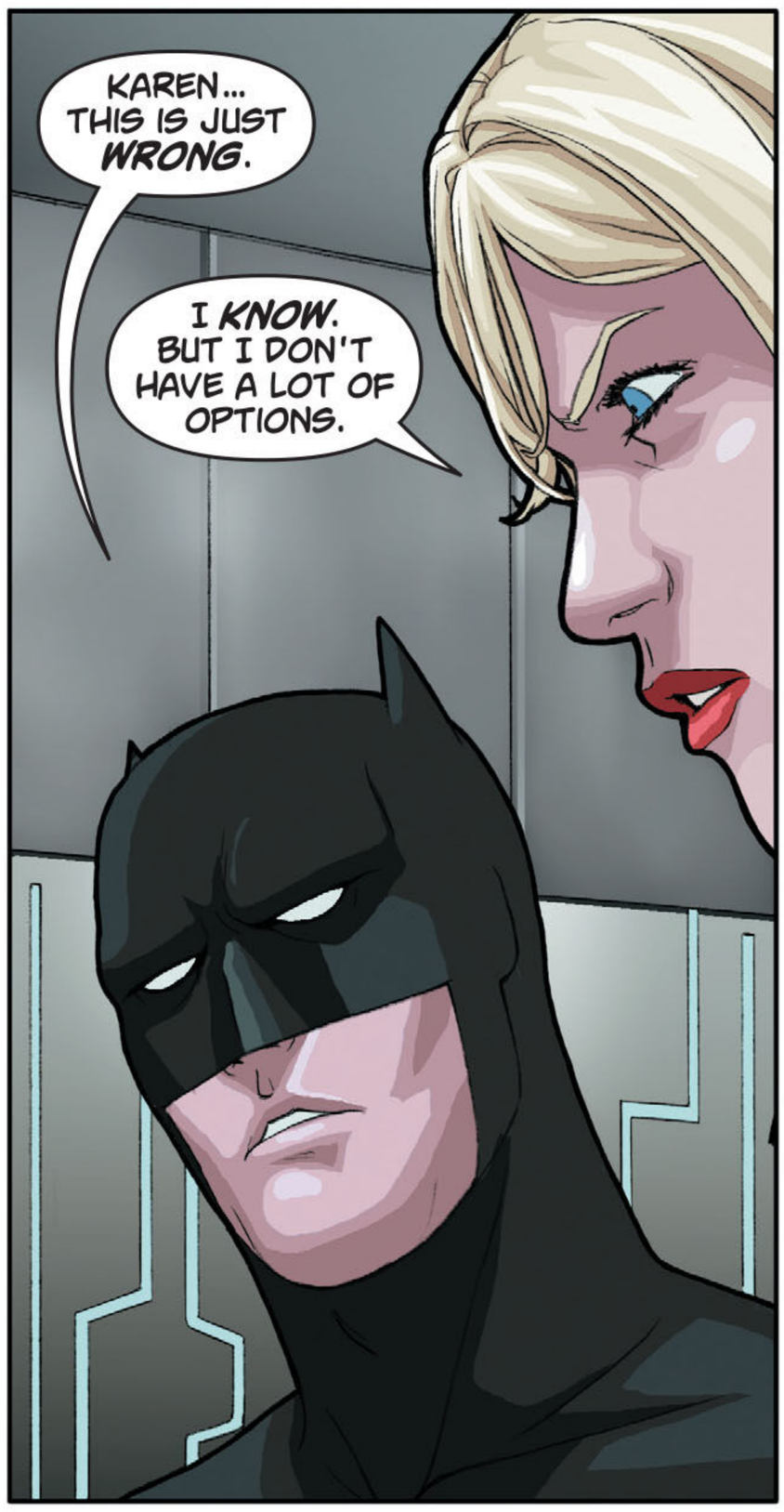
AND TONIGHT, WE'RE GOING TO REMEMBER THAT.

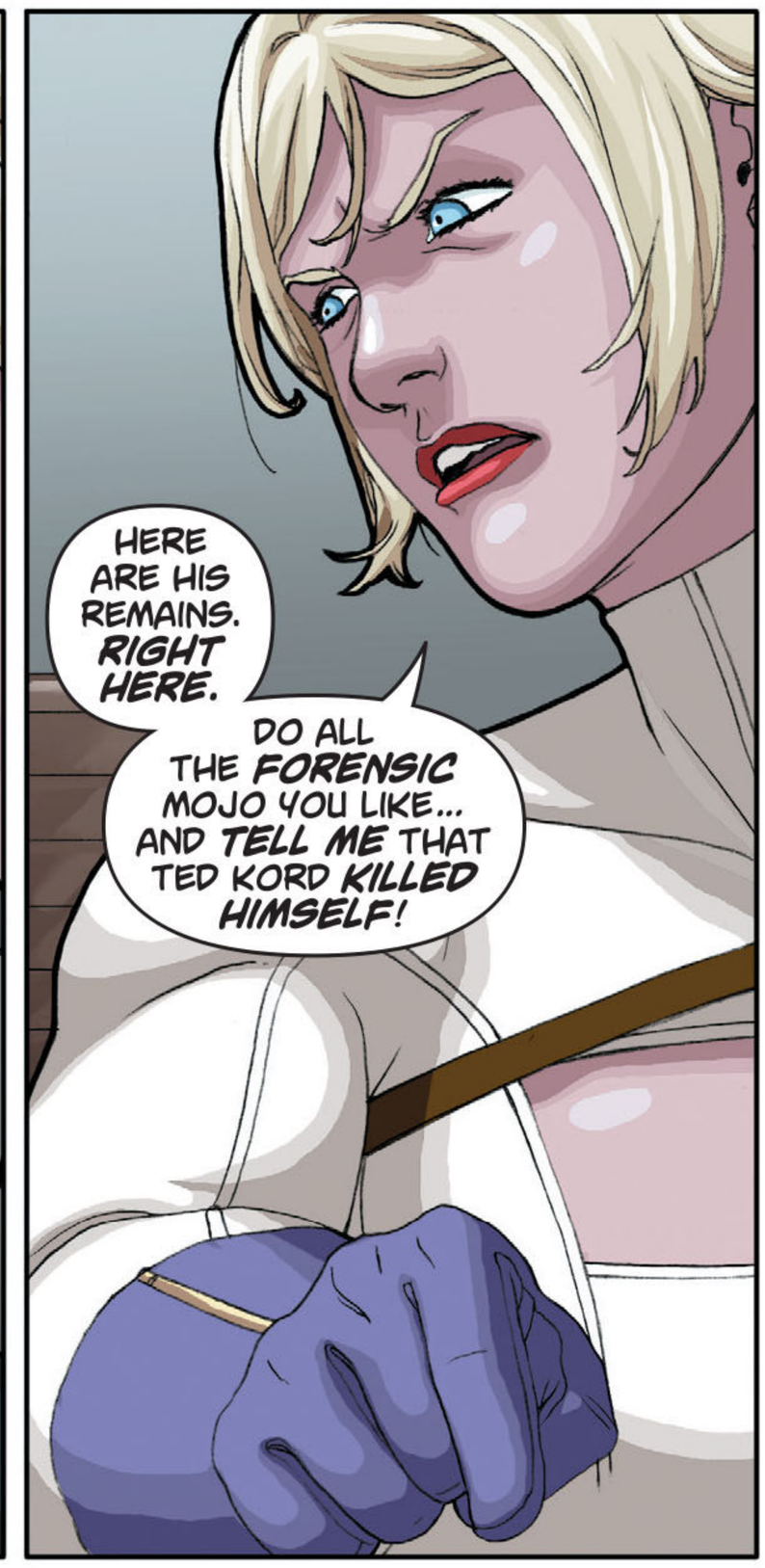

REALLY REMEMBER.
RIP
TED
KORD

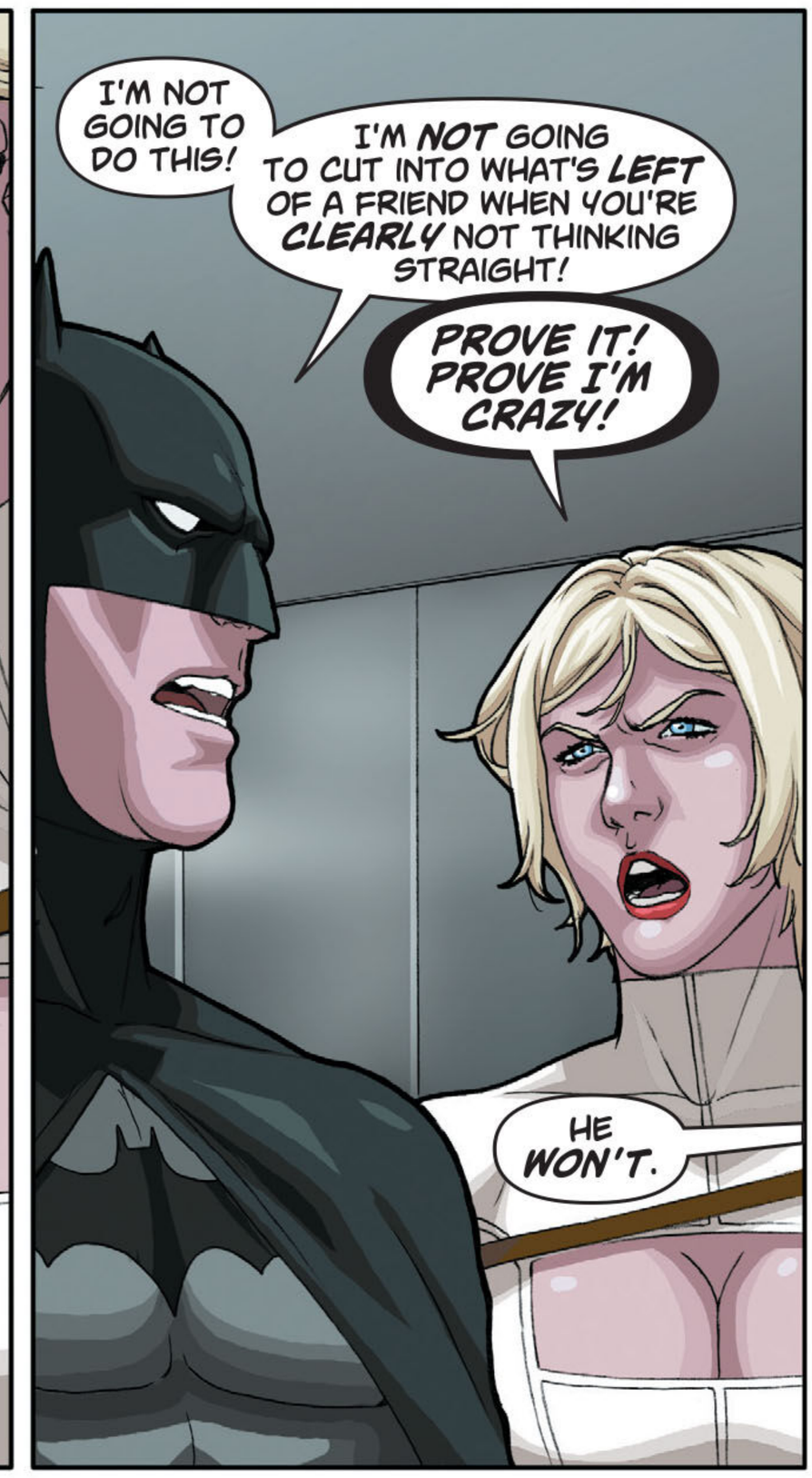

OKAY...


THIS IS KIND OF MACABRE.
COMING FROM THE MAN WHO DRESSES LIKE A BAT?

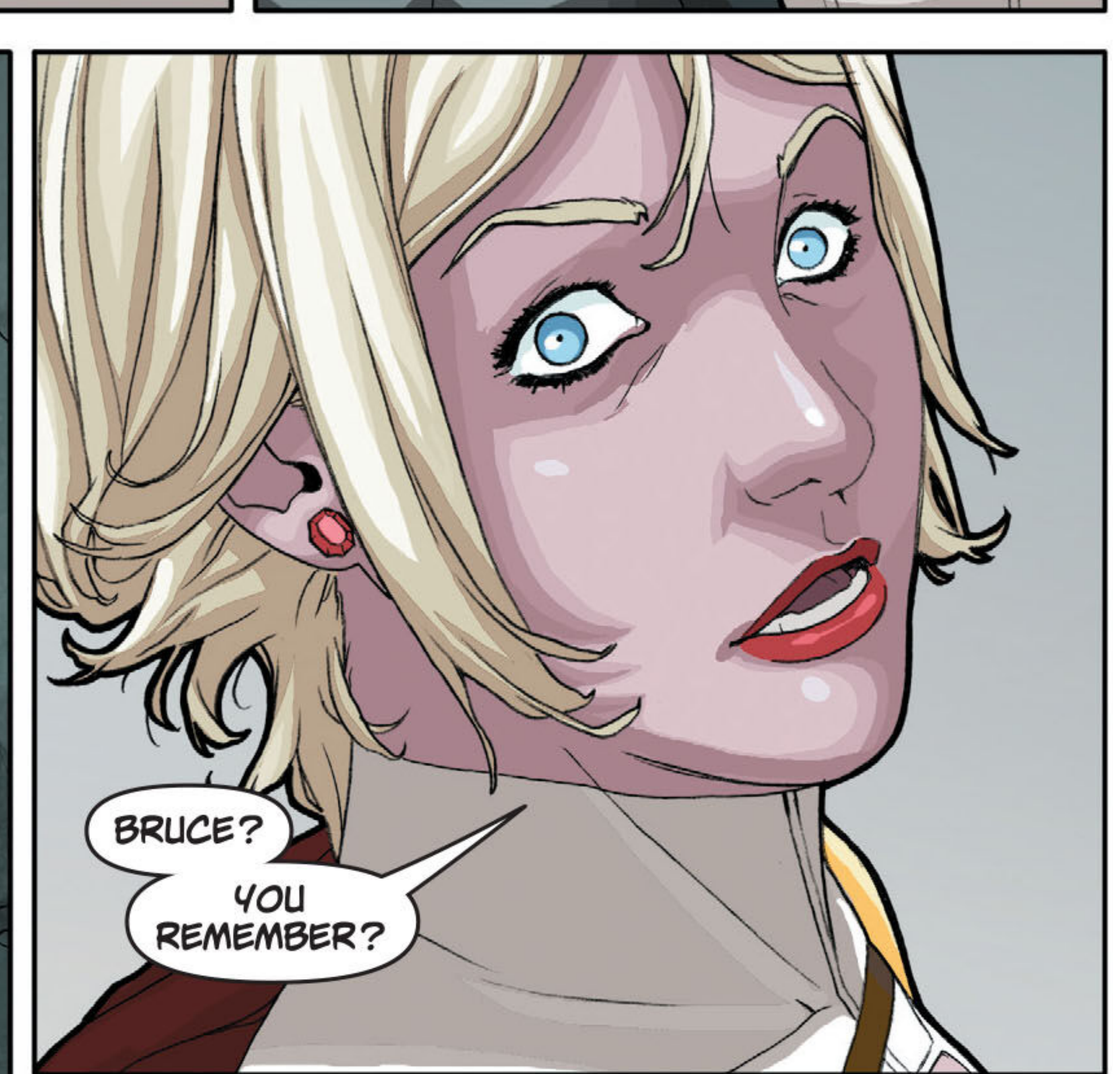

THIS IS TED KORD'S BODY. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF A FEW OF US, THE WHOLE WORLD THINKS HE SHOT HIMSELF.
PROVE IT.


KAREN... THIS IS JUST WRONG.
I KNOW. BUT I DON'T HAVE A LOT OF OPTIONS.

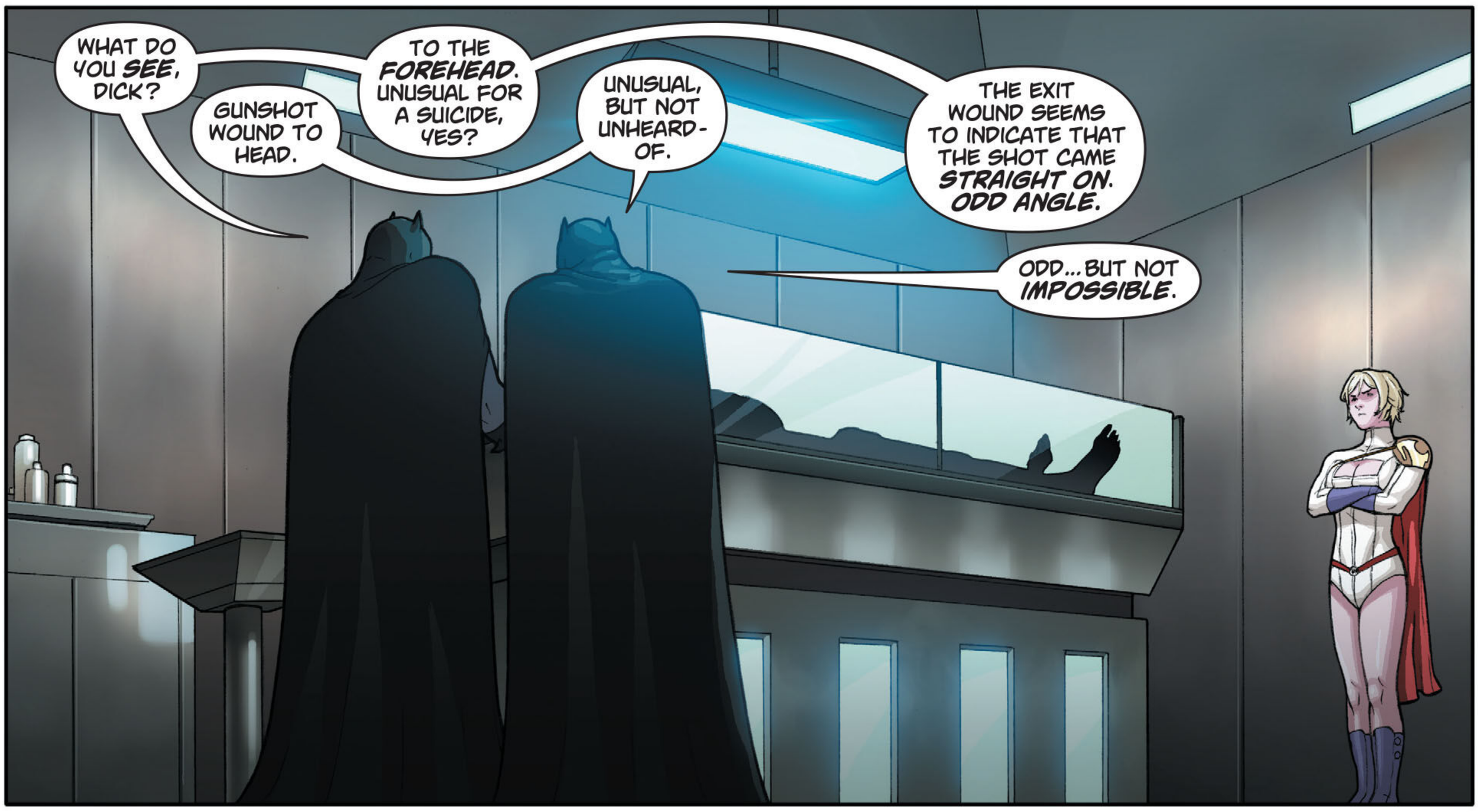

HERE ARE HIS REMAINS. RIGHT HERE.
DO ALL THE FORENSIC MOJO YOU LIKE... AND TELL ME THAT TED KORD KILLED HIMSELF!

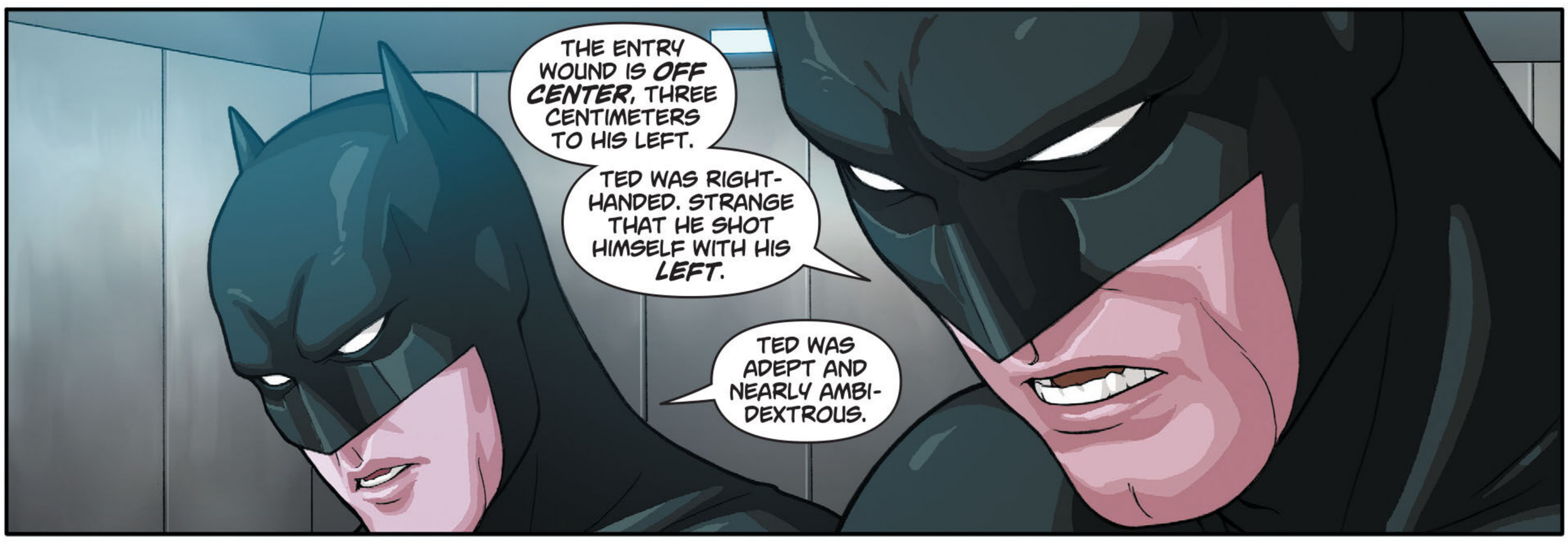

I'M NOT GOING TO DO THIS!
I'M NOT GOING TO CUT INTO WHAT'S LEFT OF A FRIEND WHEN YOU'RE CLEARLY NOT THINKING STRAIGHT!
PROVE IT! PROVE I'M CRAZY!
HE WON'T.

WHATEVER PSYCHIC ATTACK MAX LORD HAS UNLEASHED--
--SEEMS TO SHY EVERYONE AFFECTED AWAY FROM FACING THE TRUTH.

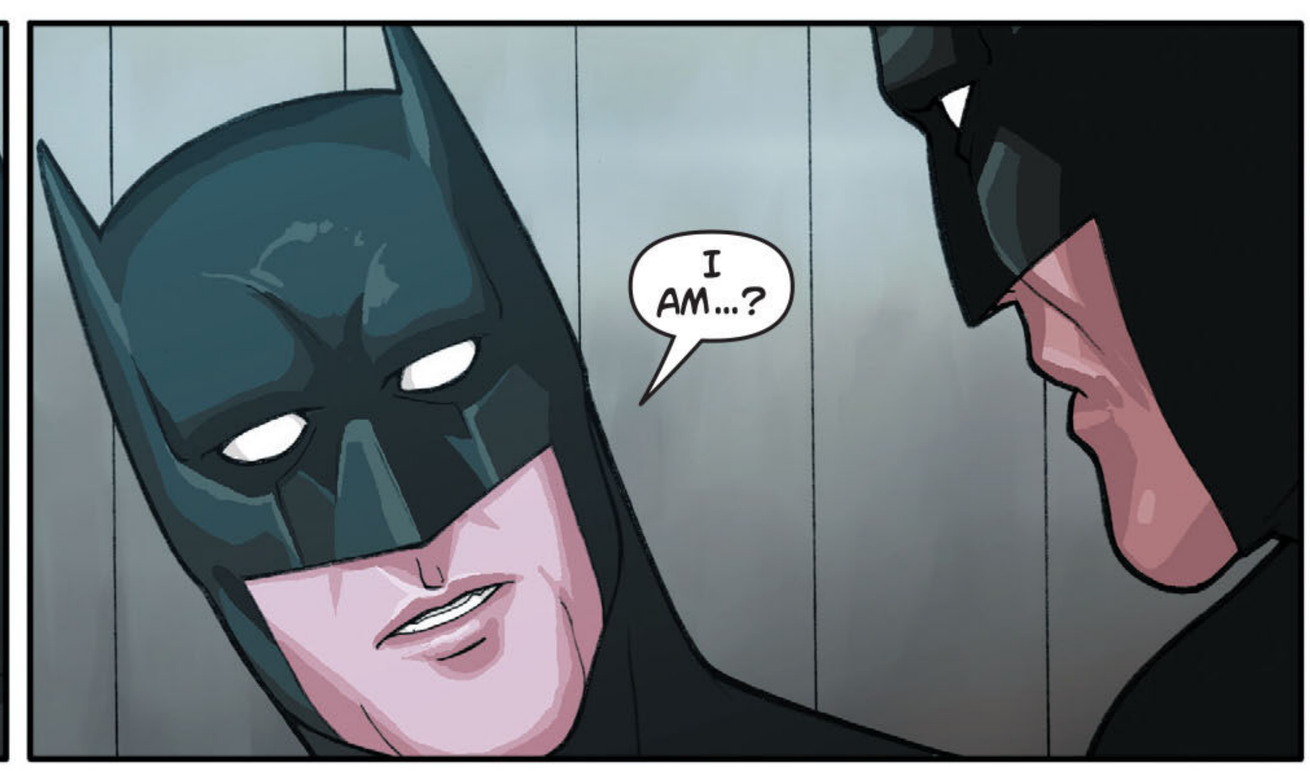

BRUCE?
YOU REMEMBER?

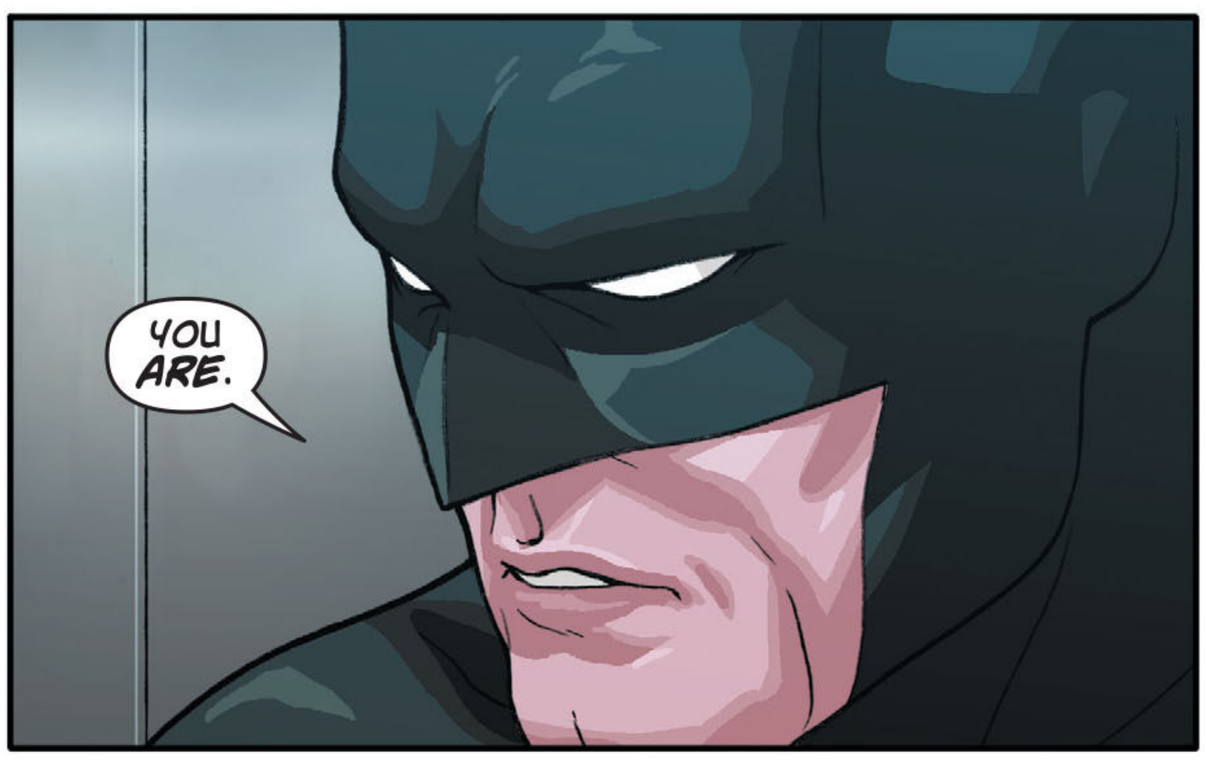
YES. AND SO WILL HE.


WHAT DO YOU SEE, DICK?
GUNSHOT WOUND TO HEAD.
TO THE FOREHEAD. UNUSUAL FOR A SUICIDE, YES?
UNUSUAL, BUT NOT UNHEARD-OF.
THE EXIT WOUND SEEMS TO INDICATE THAT THE SHOT CAME STRAIGHT ON. ODD ANGLE.
ODD... BUT NOT IMPOSSIBLE.

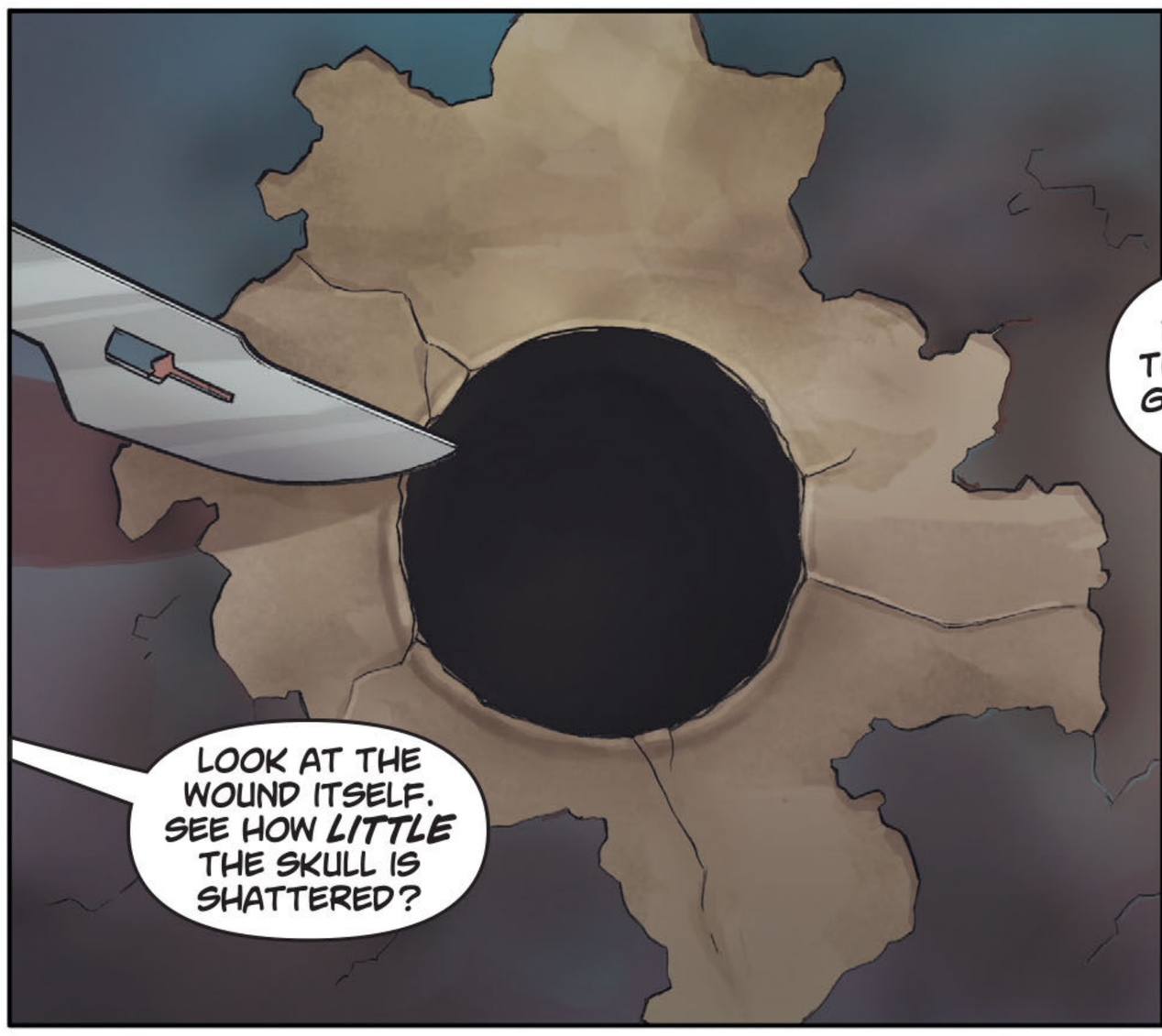

THE ENTRY WOUND IS OFF CENTER, THREE CENTIMETERS TO HIS LEFT.
TED WAS RIGHT-HANDED. STRANGE THAT HE SHOT HIMSELF WITH HIS LEFT.
TED WAS ADEPT AND NEARLY AMBI-DEXTROUS.

YOU ARE AWARE THAT AT EVERY TURN YOU KEEP FOCUSING ON THE LEAST LIKELY POSSIBILITY.


I AM...?

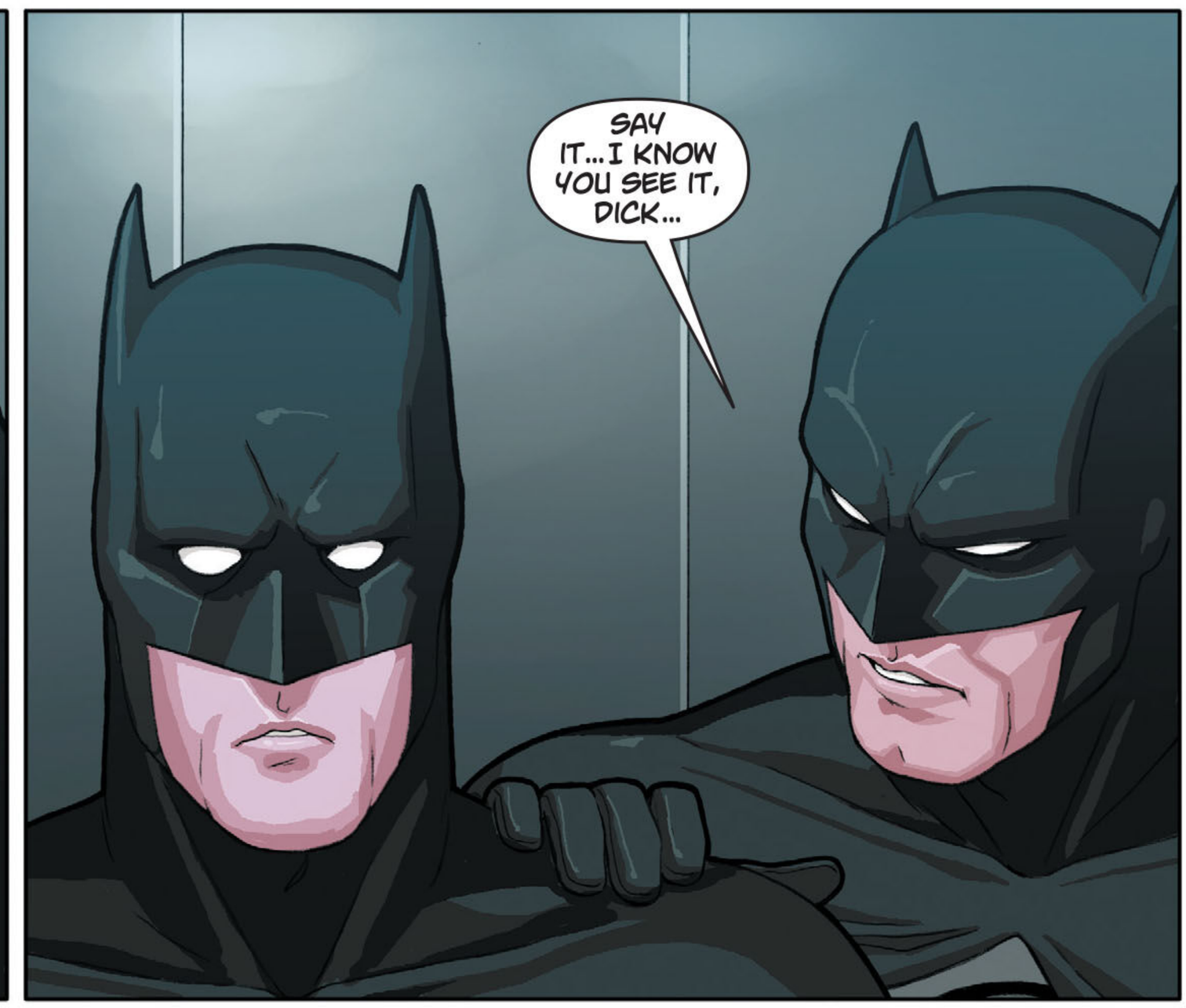

YOU ARE.

GO ON...


LOOK AT THE WOUND ITSELF. SEE HOW *LITTLE* THE SKULL IS SHATTERED?

HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE WITH A SELF-INFLICTED GUNSHOT WOUND?
HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE WITH THE MUZZLE OF A GUN PRESSED TO THE HEAD?

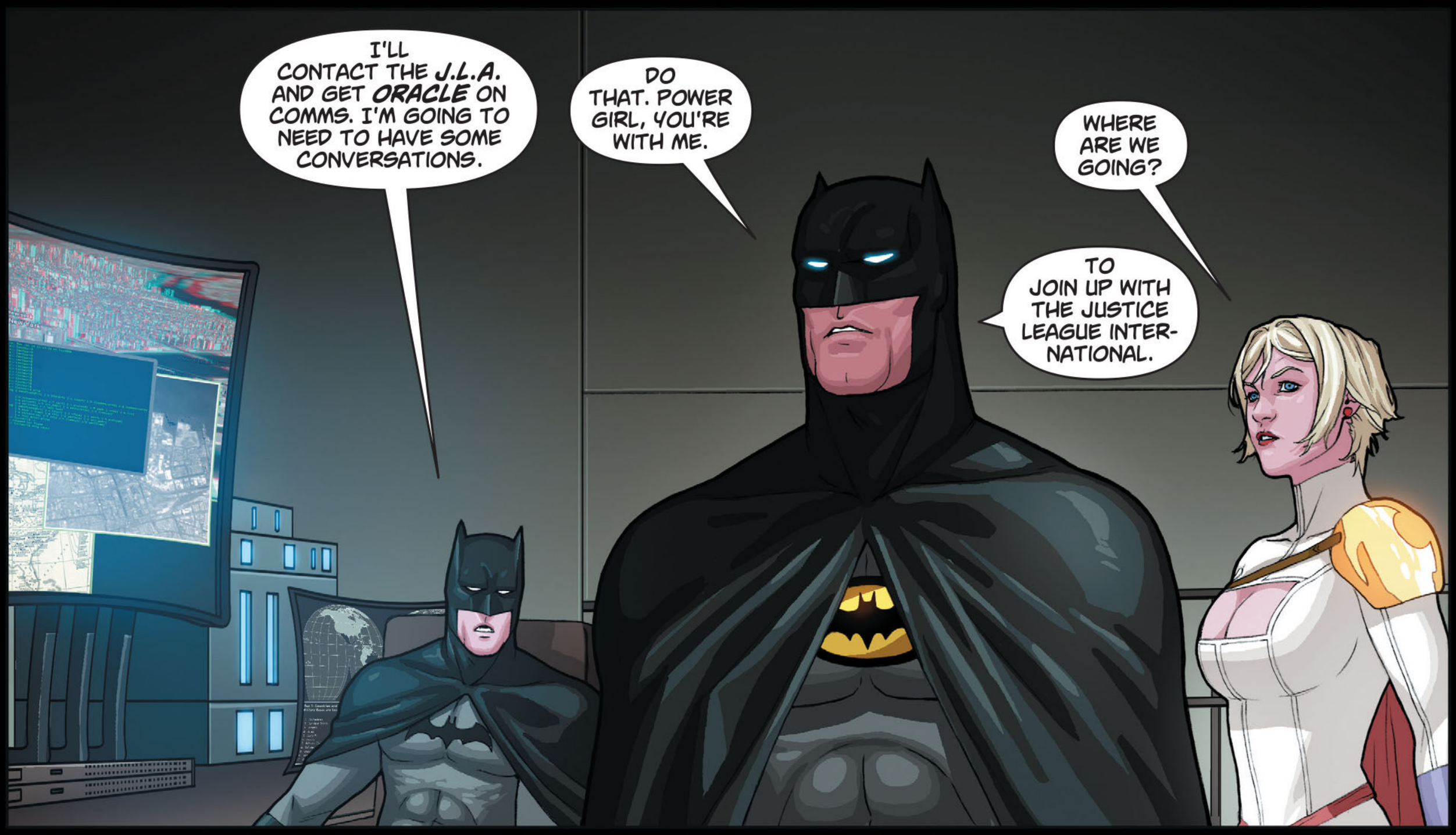
IT'S NOT.

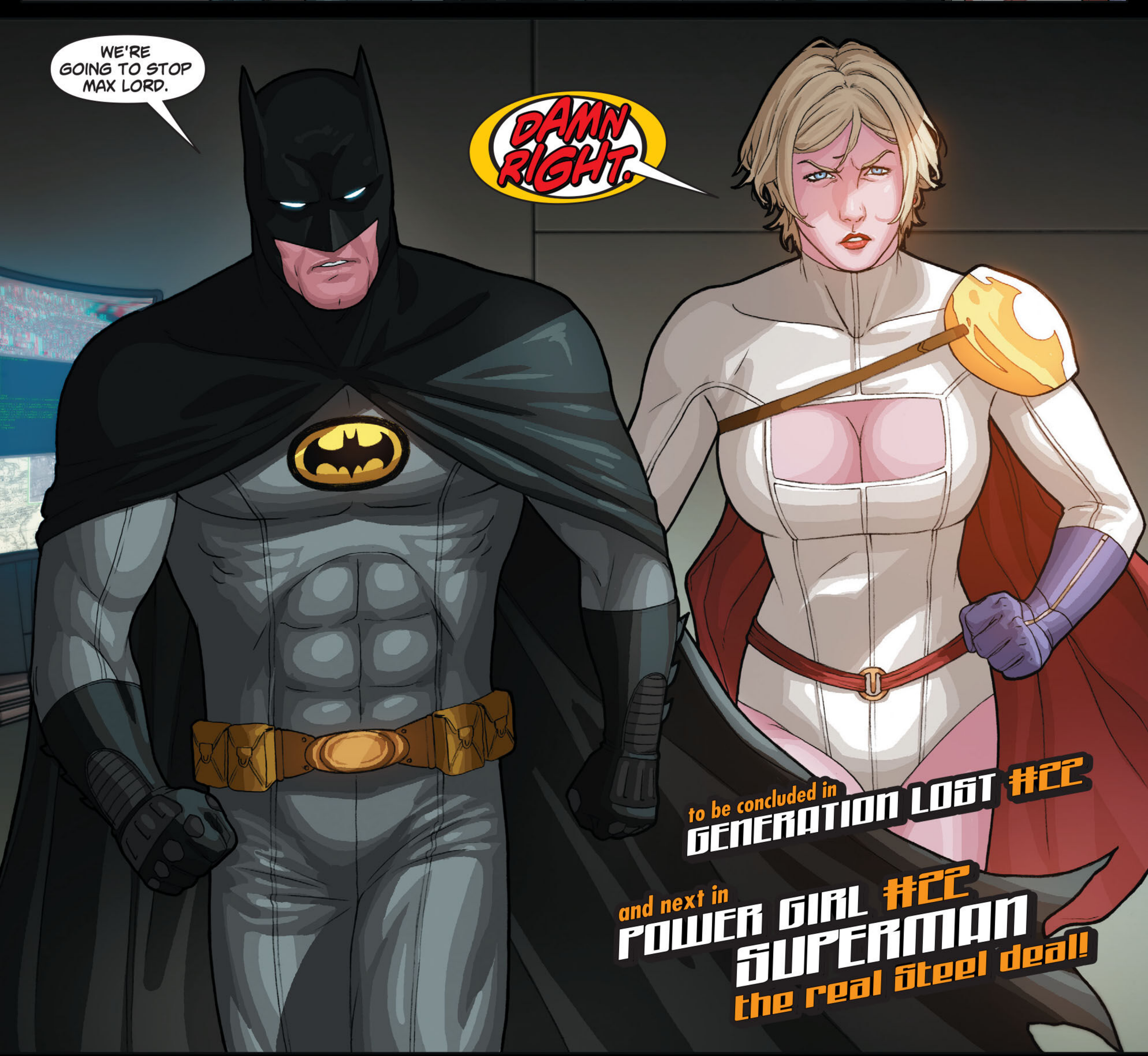

SAY IT...I KNOW YOU SEE IT, DICK...

SAY IT.

TED KORD WAS MURDERED.

REMEMBER IT.


I'LL CONTACT THE J.L.A. AND GET ORACLE ON COMMS. I'M GOING TO NEED TO HAVE SOME CONVERSATIONS.
DO THAT. POWER GIRL, YOU'RE WITH ME.
WHERE ARE WE GOING?
TO JOIN UP WITH THE JUSTICE LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL.


WE'RE GOING TO STOP MAX LORD.
DAMN RIGHT.
to be concluded in GENERATION LOST #22
and next in POWER GIRL #22
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GEOFF JOHNS

with DALE EAGLESHAM

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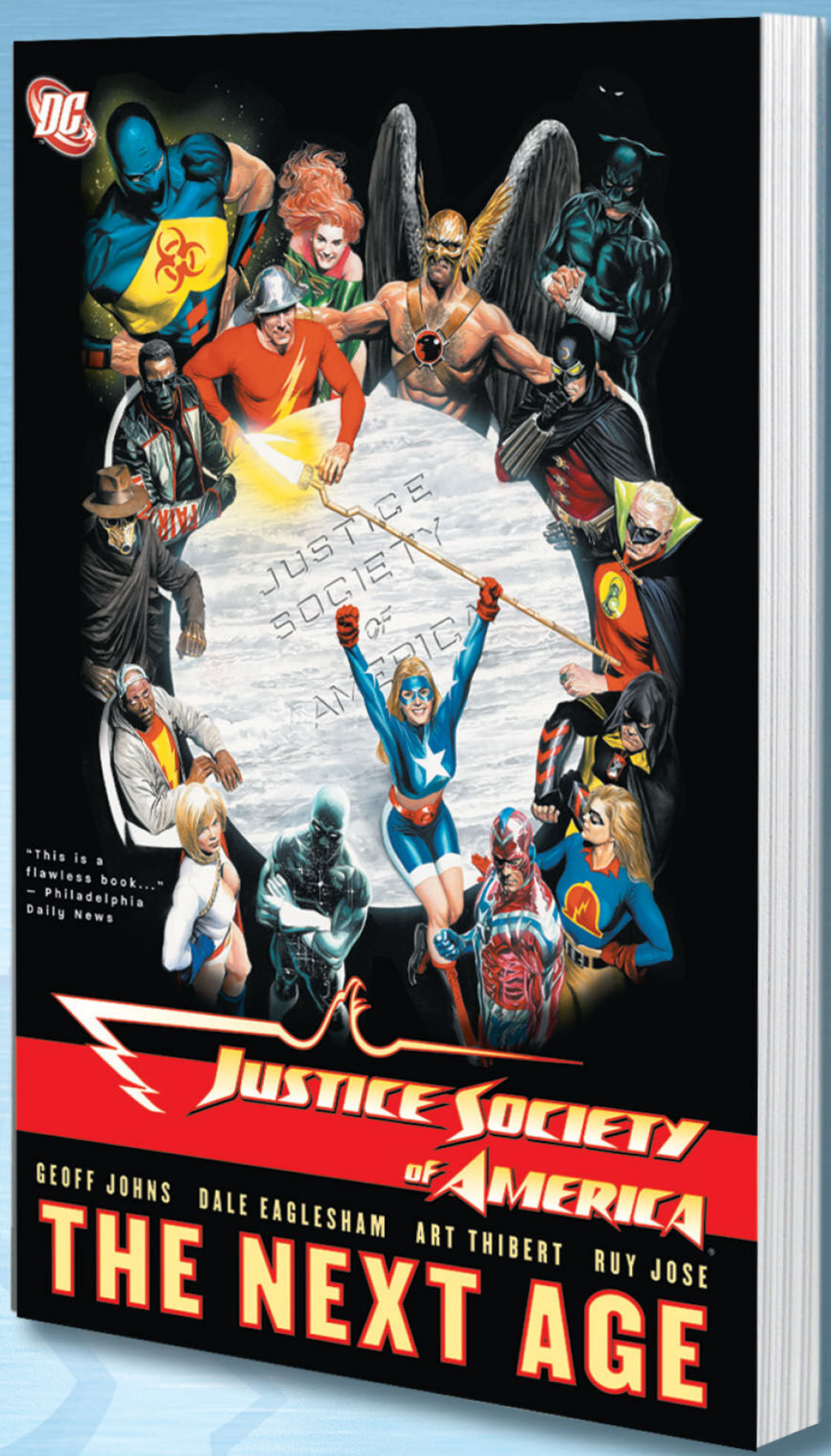
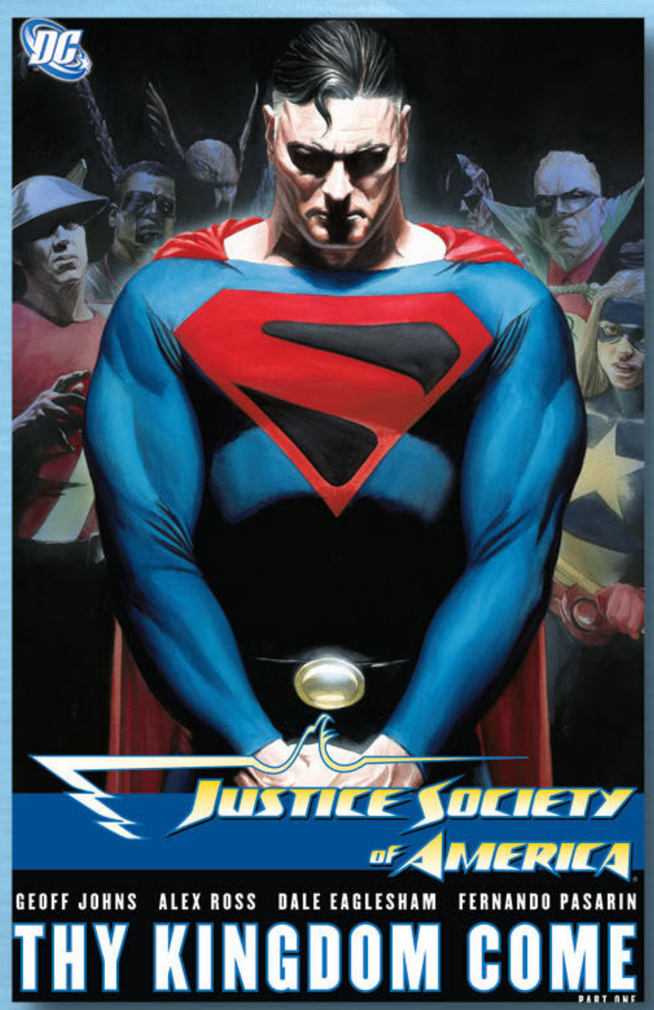
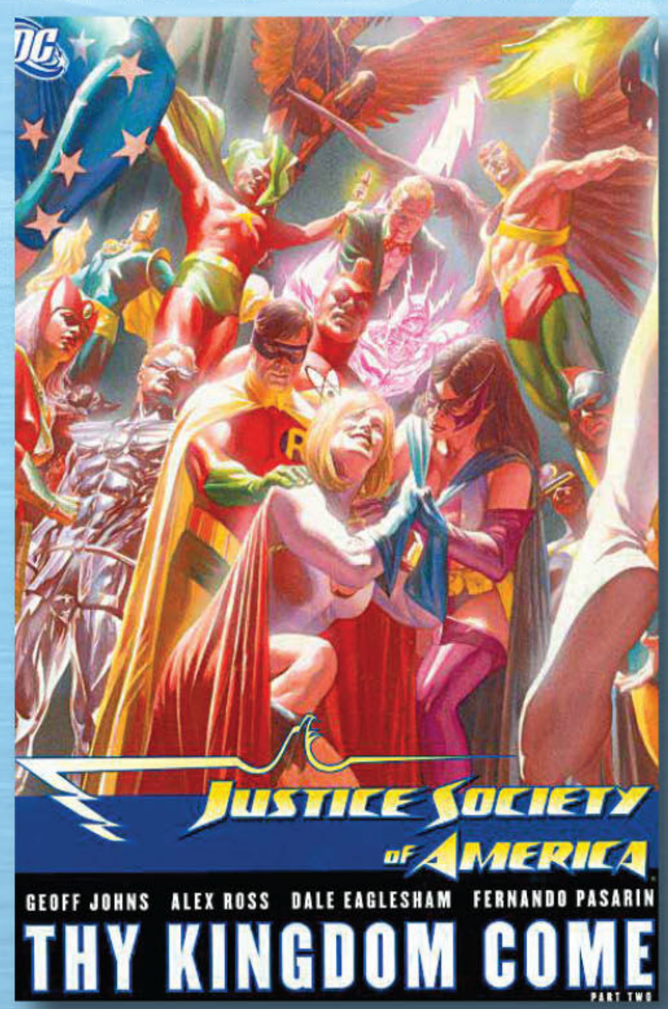


JUSTICE SOCIETY
OF AMERICA
THY KINGDOM COME PART 1



with
DALE EAGLESHAM
& ALEX ROSS

JUSTICE SOCIETY
OF AMERICA
THY KINGDOM COME PART 2



with
DALE EAGLESHAM
& ALEX ROSS

JUSTICE SOCIETY
OF AMERICA
THY KINGDOM COME PART 3

with
DALE EAGLESHAM
& ALEX ROSS

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